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DOCTOR WHO CLASSICS
PRESENTS

DOCTOR WHO
AND THE STAR BEAST

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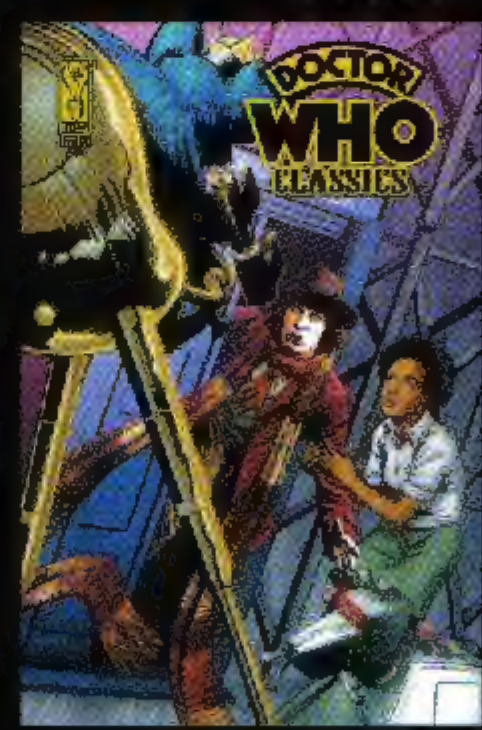

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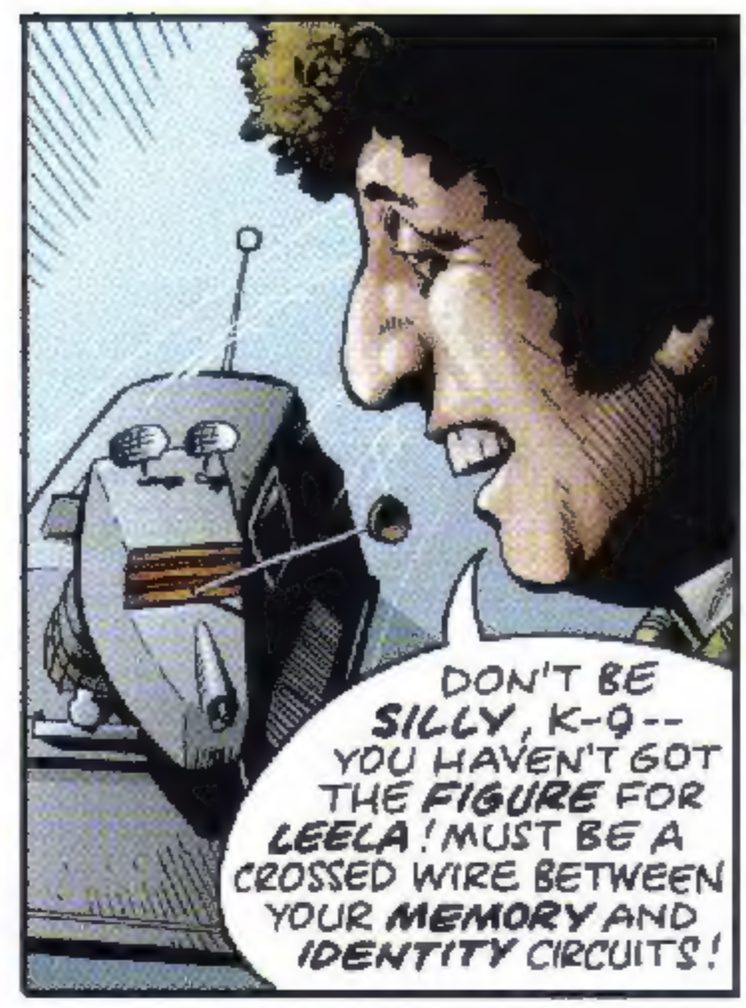
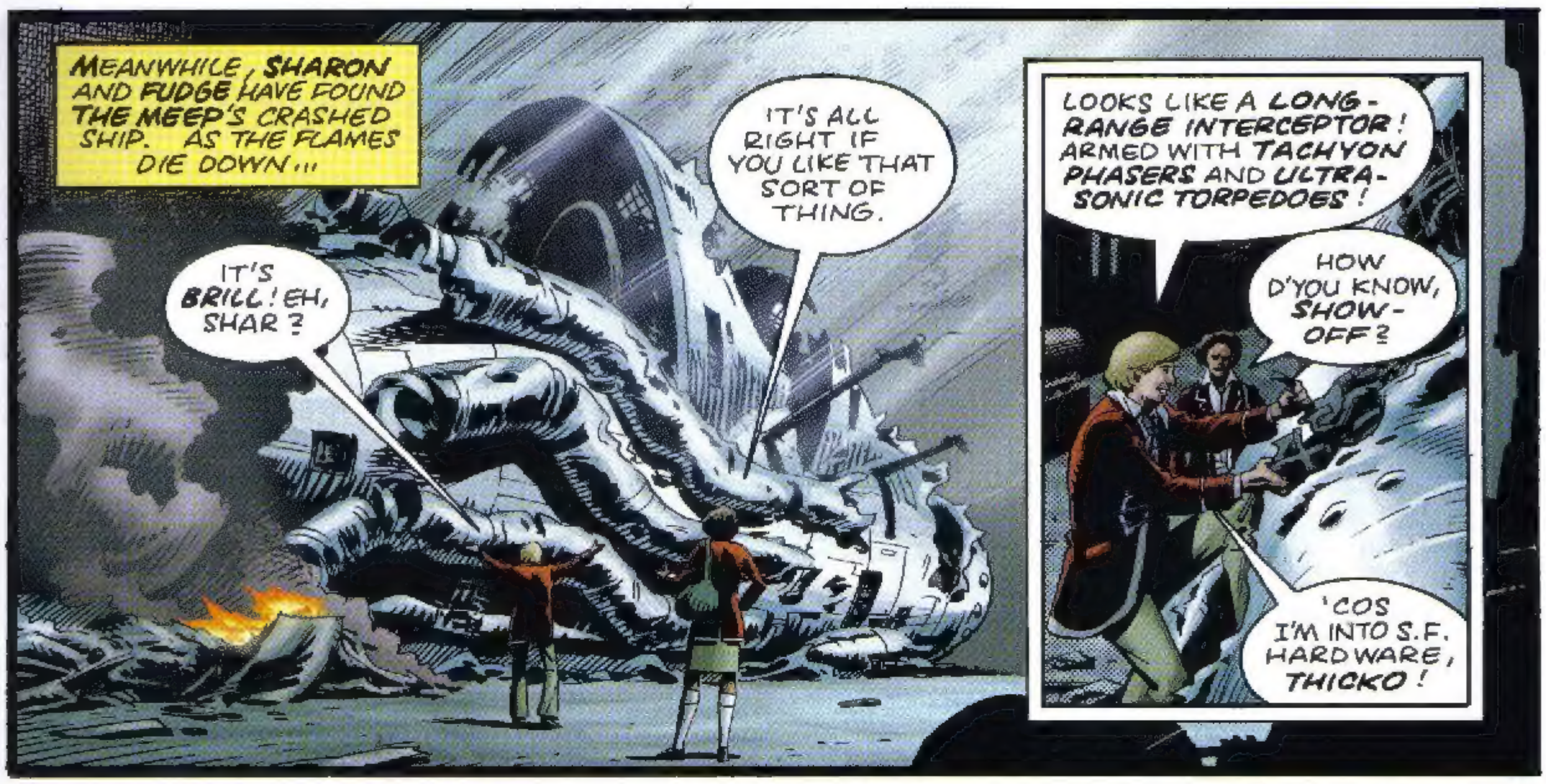
A MYSTERIOUS ALIEN – KNOWN AS 'THE MEEP' – HAS MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING IN BLACKCASTLE, WHERE HE IS HELPED BY TWO CHILDREN, MEANWHILE, THE DOCTOR ESCAPES FROM THE MEEP'S PURSUERS – UNAWARE THAT THEY HAVE PERFORMED A SECRET OPERATION ON HIM!



SCRIPT: MILLS + WAGNER ART: DAVE GIBBONS.


MEANWHILE, SHARON AND FUDGE HAVE FOUND THE MEEP'S CRASHED SHIP. AS THE FLAMES DIE DOWN...
IT'S BRILL! EH, SHAR?
IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU LIKE THAT SORT OF THING.
LOOKS LIKE A LONG-RANGE INTERCEPTOR! ARMED WITH TACHYON PHASERS AND ULTRA-SONIC TORPEDOES!
HOW D'YOU KNOW, SHOW-OFF?
'COS I'M INTO S.F. HARDWARE, THICKO!

EAT YOUR HEART OUT, LUKE! THIS IS STAR-ADMIRAL FUDGE HIGGINS TO STAR BASE SEVEN-ZERO-ALPHA! DO YOU COPY?
OH, SHUT YER FACE! IF THERE'S NOTHING THERE THAT'LL HELP THE MEEP--LET'S GO!

WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE! IF SOMEONE FINDS OUT THAT WE'VE NICKED IN...

I'M SCARED, FUDGE!
SKREEK!

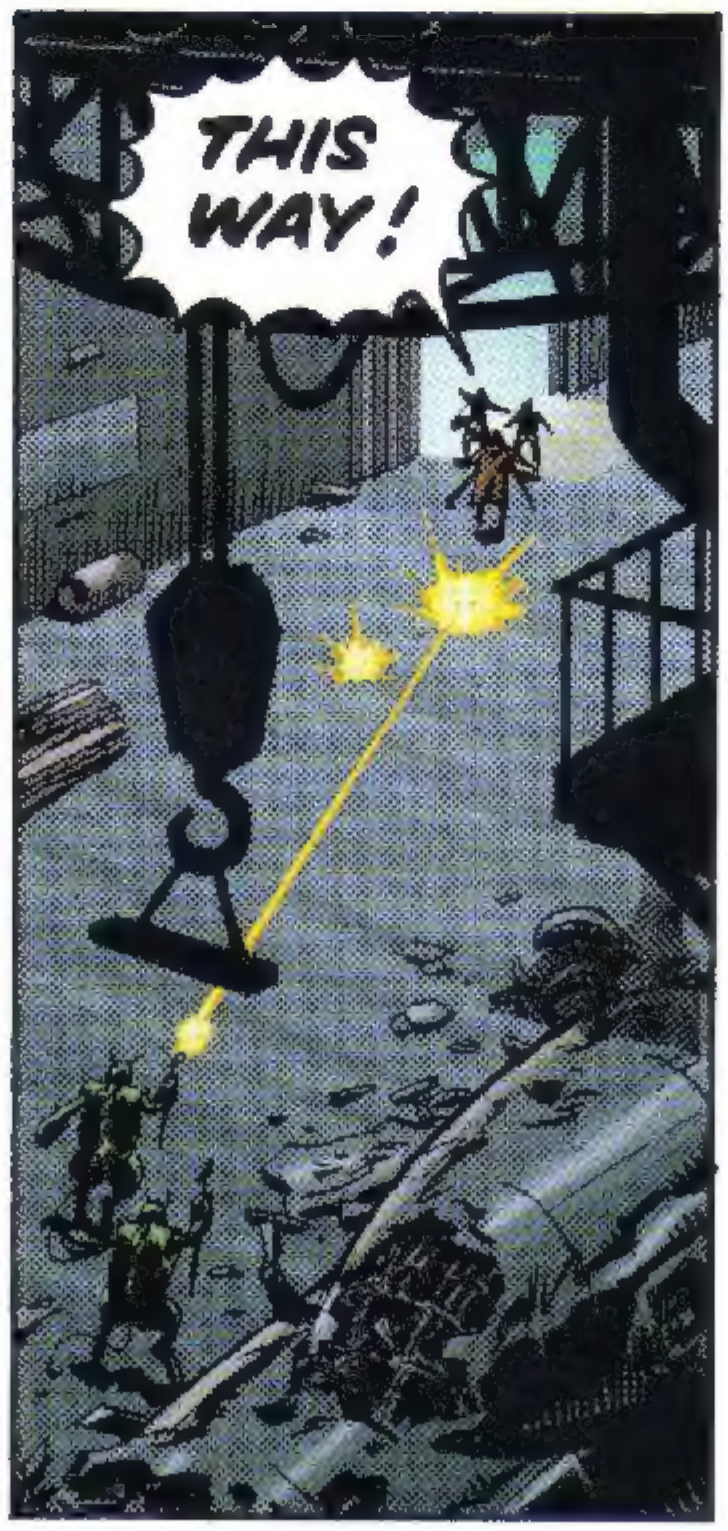
AAAHHHH!

GET HIM OFF ME! DO SOMETHING, FUDGE!

BLIMEY! WHICH CONTROL DO I PRESS...?
LET ME...!

A LASER BOLT SHOT FROM THE SHIP!
NICE ONE!
EEEEEHHH!

HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT WAS THE RIGHT BUTTON, MATE?
'O' LEVEL IN STARSHIP WEAPONRY, GALLIFREY COMP! COME ON!


THIS WAY!

AS THE WRARTH WARRIORS HELP THEIR FALLEN COMRADE...
MY SKELO-SHIELD TOOK MOST OF THE IMPACT... THOSE TWO DWARVES MUST ALSO BE IN LEAGUE WITH THE HATED MEEP.
YES. WE'LL LET THEM ALL THINK THEY'VE ESCAPED ... UNTIL THEY'VE MADE CONTACT WITH OUR TARGET!

MEANWHILE, SHARON TELLS THE DOCTOR THEIR SECRET...
...SO YOU FOUND THE 'MEEP' IN A GARDEN SHED? HOW EXCITING!
NAH. BIT AVERAGE, REALLY. HE'S JUST AN OLD FUR-BAG!

LOOK, DOCTOR! THE MEEP'S COMING OUT TO GREET US! HE'S BETTER!
MEEP! MEEP!

GET HIM FROM THE PET SHOP, DID YOU, FUDGE?
NO, HE'S FROM ANOTHER GALAXY, MUM.
OH, THAT'S NICE, DEAR.

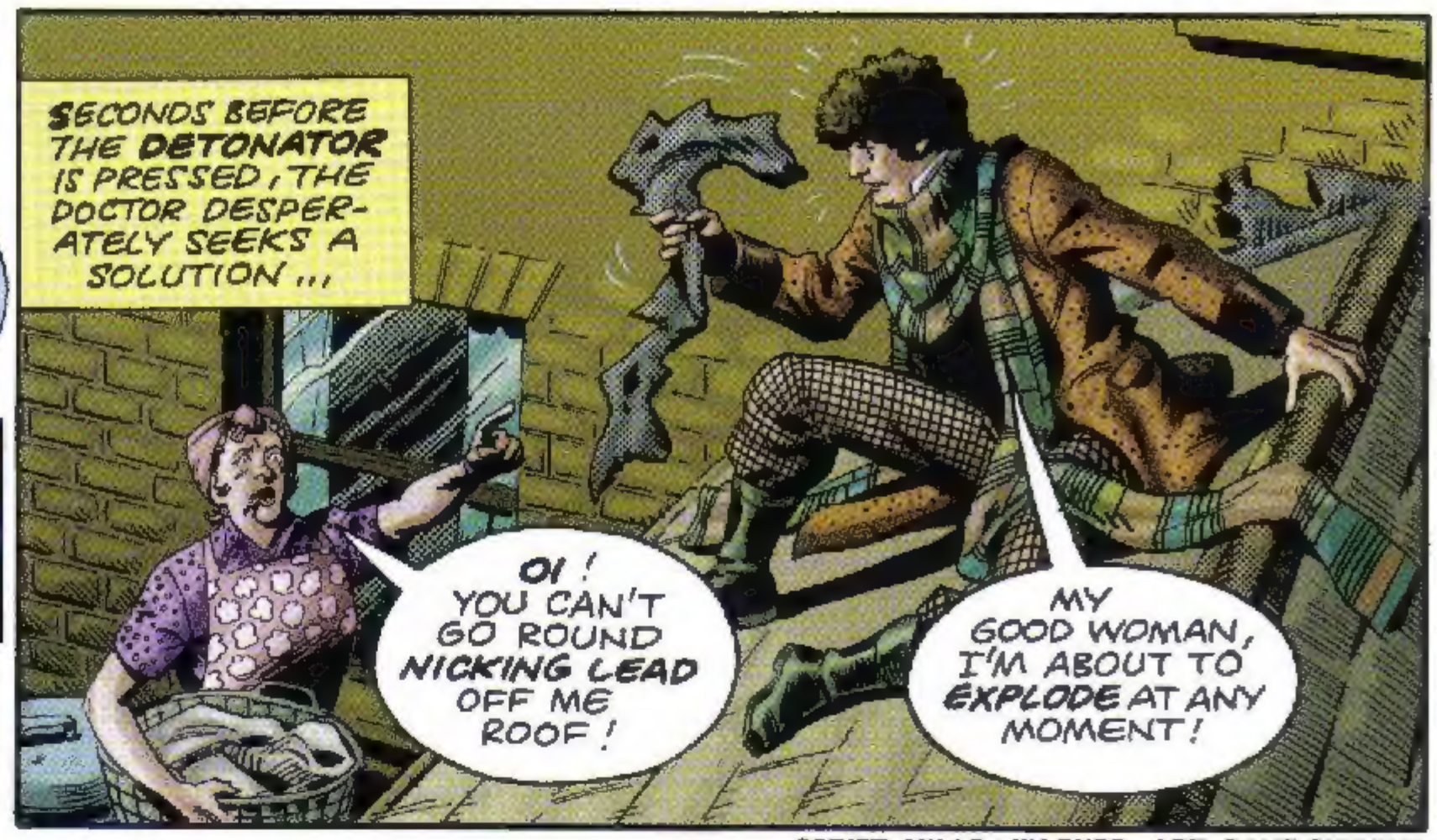
ISN'T HE LOVELY, DOCTOR...?
MEEP!
H'MM... I WONDER-- COULD THE OTHER ALIENS BE AFTER HIM? BUT, IF SO, THERE'S SOMETHING THAT PUZZLES ME...

THE WAY THEY LET US ESCAPE-- IT WAS TOO EASY...! AND MY STOMACH ACHE... OH, NO! IT ALL ADDS UP...!
WHAT'S WRONG, DOCTOR?

GET AWAY FROM ME, EVERYONE! I'VE JUST REALISED...
I'M A LIVING BOMB!

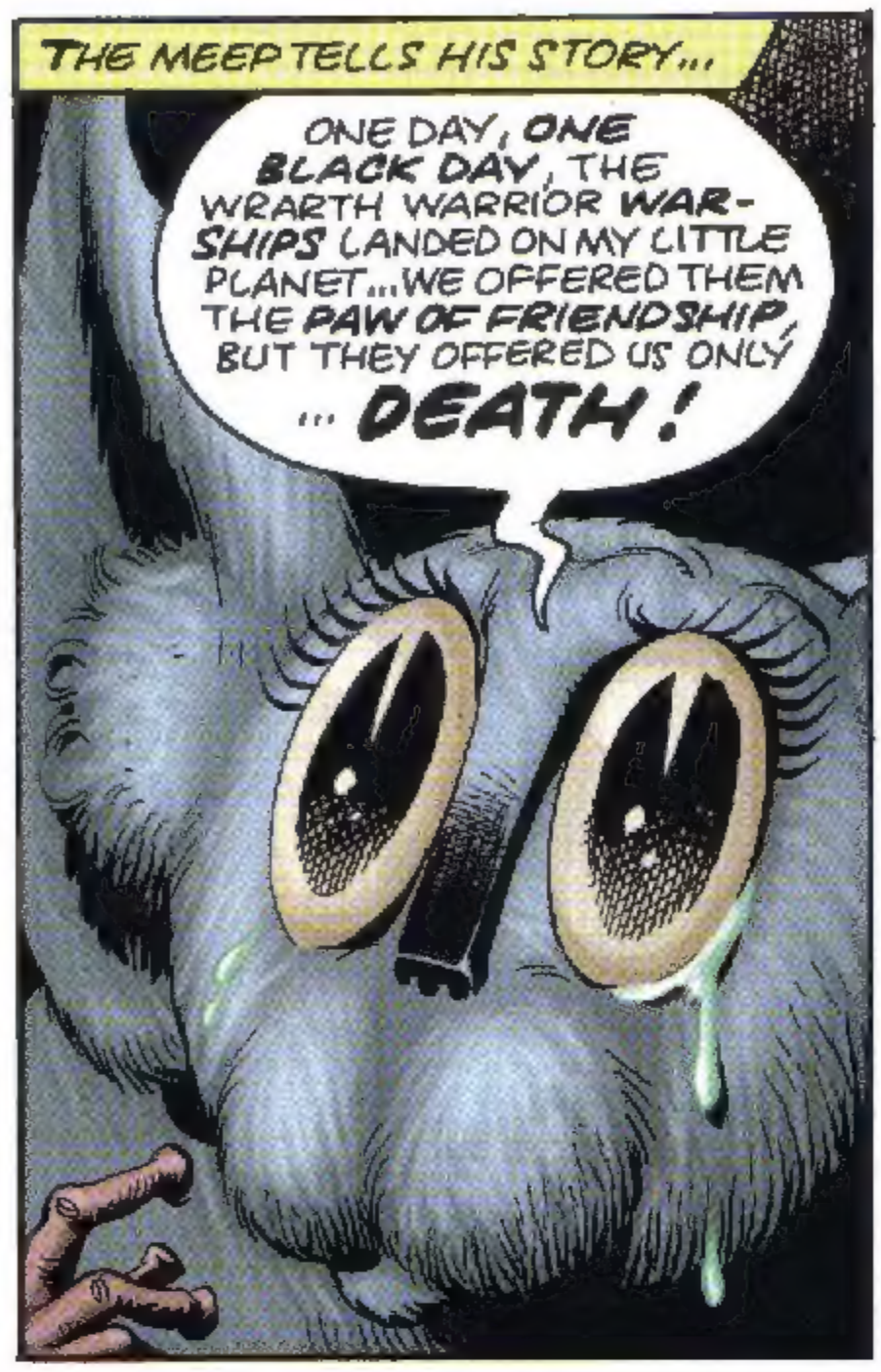
DETONATE!
NEXT WEEK:
DOCTOR DEATH!

A MYSTERIOUS ALIEN – KNOWN AS 'THE MEEP' – HAS CRASH-LANDED IN BLACK-CASTLE, WHERE HE IS HELPED BY THE DOCTOR AND TWO CHILDREN, BUT THE WRATH WARRIORS – BITTER ENEMIES OF THE MEEP – HAVE PLANTED A BOMB INSIDE THE DOCTOR AND ARE READY TO DETONATE IT!

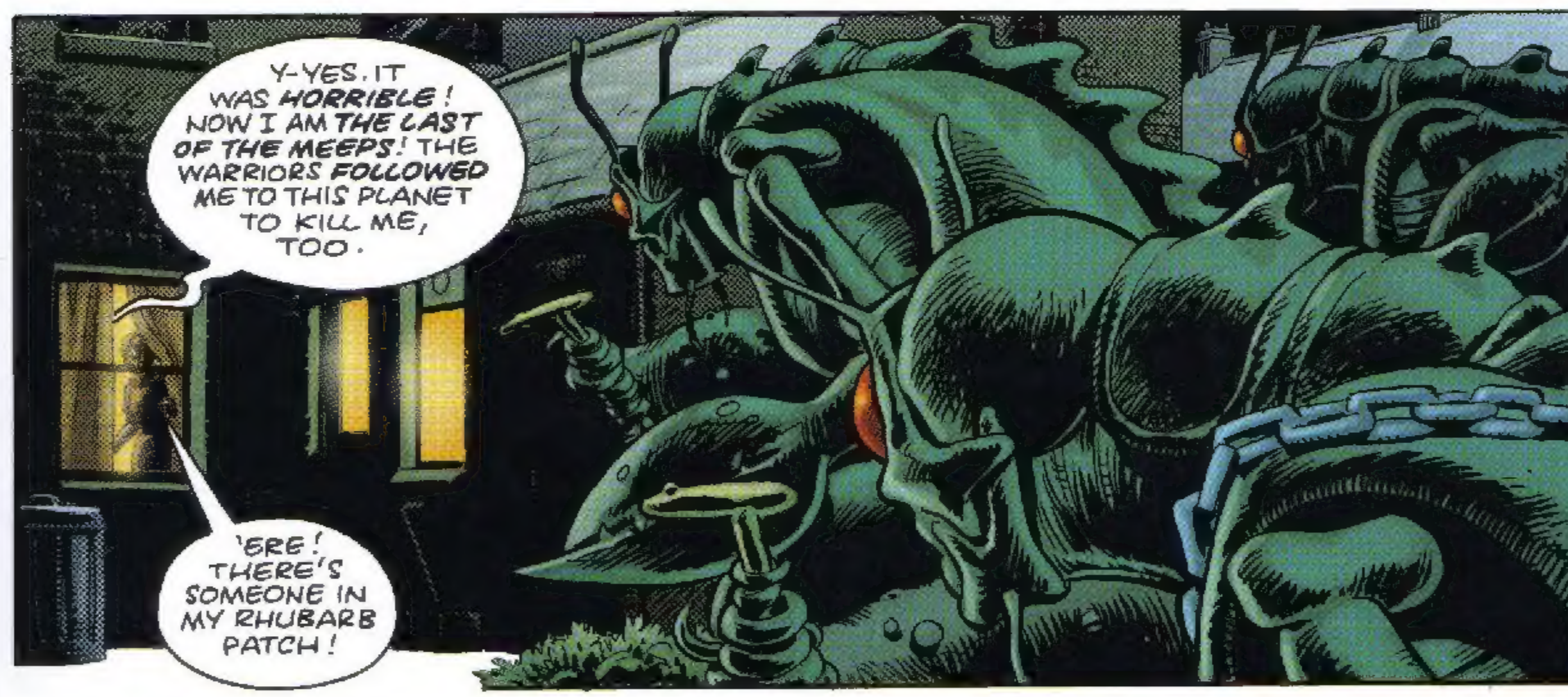


SCRIPT: MILLS + WAGNER ART: DAVE GIBBONS.

PERHAPS YOU CAN EXPLAIN WHY THE OTHER ALIENS ARE AFTER YOU? YOU HAVEN'T DONE SOMETHING... NAUGHTY?
OH, NO, DOCTOR!


THE MEEP TELLS HIS STORY...
ONE DAY, ONE BLACK DAY, THE WRARTH WARRIOR WAR-SHIPS LANDED ON MY LITTLE PLANET...WE OFFERED THEM THE PAW OF FRIENDSHIP, BUT THEY OFFERED US ONLY ... DEATH!

THE WARRIORS DESTROYED EVERYTHING! THEY DID TERRIBLE THINGS TO MY PEOPLE...THINGS I DON'T LIKE TO TALK ABOUT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN. > SNUFFLE <
COR! TORTURE AND THAT..?


Y-YES. IT WAS HORRIBLE! NOW I AM THE LAST OF THE MEEPS! THE WARRIORS FOLLOWED ME TO THIS PLANET TO KILL ME, TOO.
'ERE! THERE'S SOMEONE IN MY RHUBARB PATCH!

MRS. HIGGINS... THERE ARE ALIENS AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR GARDEN!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE NEIGHBOURS WILL THINK!
IT'S ME THEY'RE AFTER. I'VE GOT YOU ALL INTO ENOUGH TROUBLE. I CAN MANAGE ON MY OWN NOW. 'BYE, 'BYE.
DON'T BE A SILLY MEEP, MEEP. I KNOW A WAY TO STOP THE WRARTH WARRIORS ...I'LL BUILD A FIZGIG!

AND SO --

WHAT'S A FIZGIG, DOCTOR?

YOU'LL SEE, OR RATHER YOU WON'T SEE, WHEN IT'S SWITCHED ON.

IF I CAN JUST BORROW THAT PIECE OF GUM YOU'RE CHEWING, FUDGE--I MUST CONNECT THE HELIO-PHOTIC MODIFIER TO THE STEREOP-TICON.

ALL RIGHT. BUT I WANT IT BACK LATER.

MEEP! I'M SO GRATEFUL TO YOU, DOCTOR.

BUT THE MEEP'S THOUGHTS ARE FAR FROM GRATEFUL...!

YOU STUPID EARTH CREATURES! IT WAS EASY FOR A SUPERIOR INTELLIGENCE TO FOOL YOU!

BUT IT IS STILL DISTASTEFUL TO HAVE THIS EARTH-CHILD STROKING THE FUR OF THE 'MOST-HIGH'. HE WHOSE COMMANDS HAVE MADE A THOUSAND PLANETS TREMBLE!

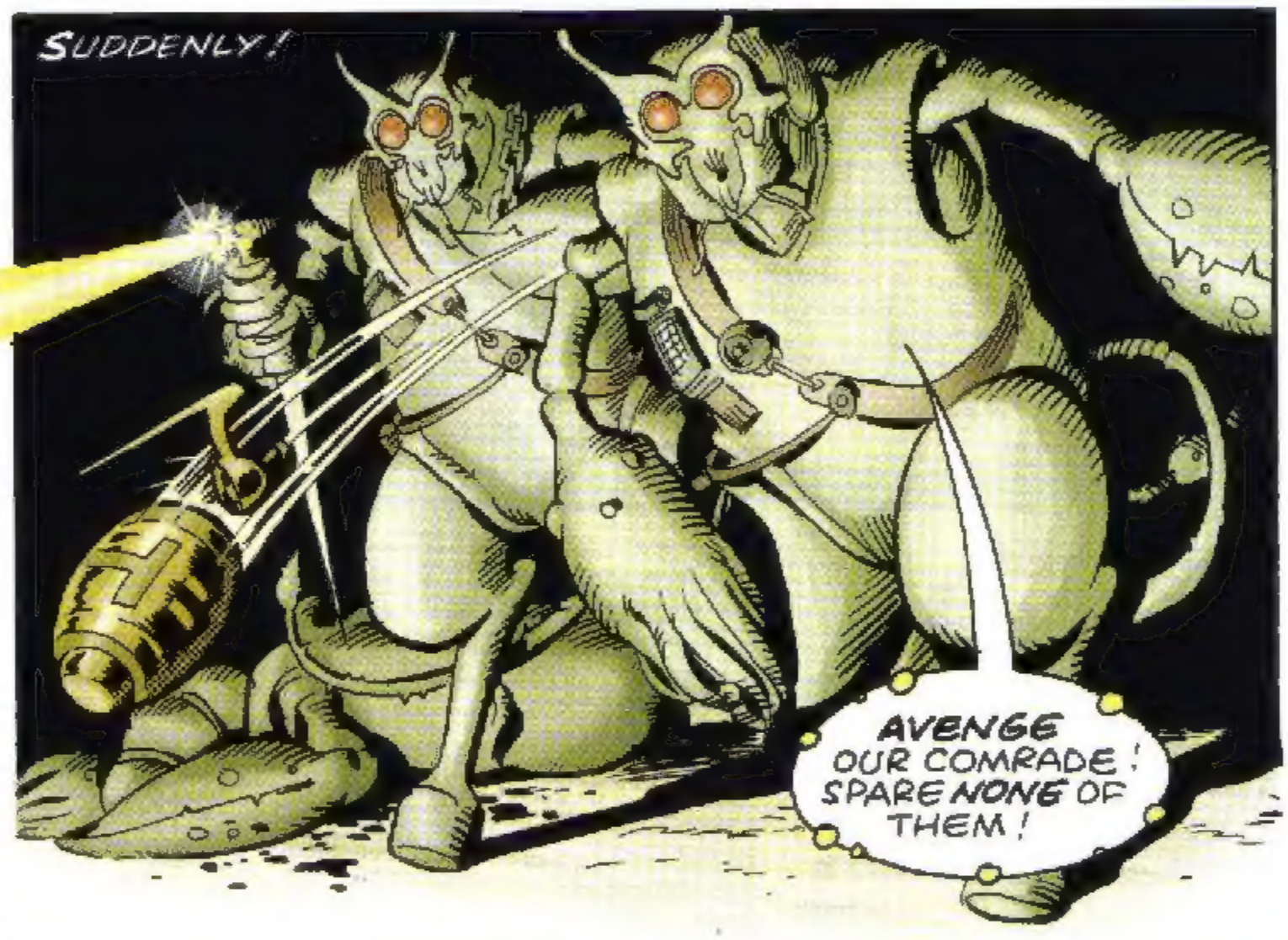
LATER SHE WILL BE PUNISHED FOR SUCH FAMILIARITY. THE 'MOST-HIGH' WILL ENJOY GIVING HER A GRUNDIAN BLOOD-NOG!

HERE THEY COME, DOCTOR!

A QUICK ADJUSTMENT TO THE DICHROMAT DAMPER AND WE'RE READY TO SWITCH ON!

A FIZGIG PROJECTS ULTRA-WHITE LIGHT--OFF THE USUAL CHROMATIC SCALE--IT SHOULD DAZZLE THE WARRIORS' INFRA-RED EYES!

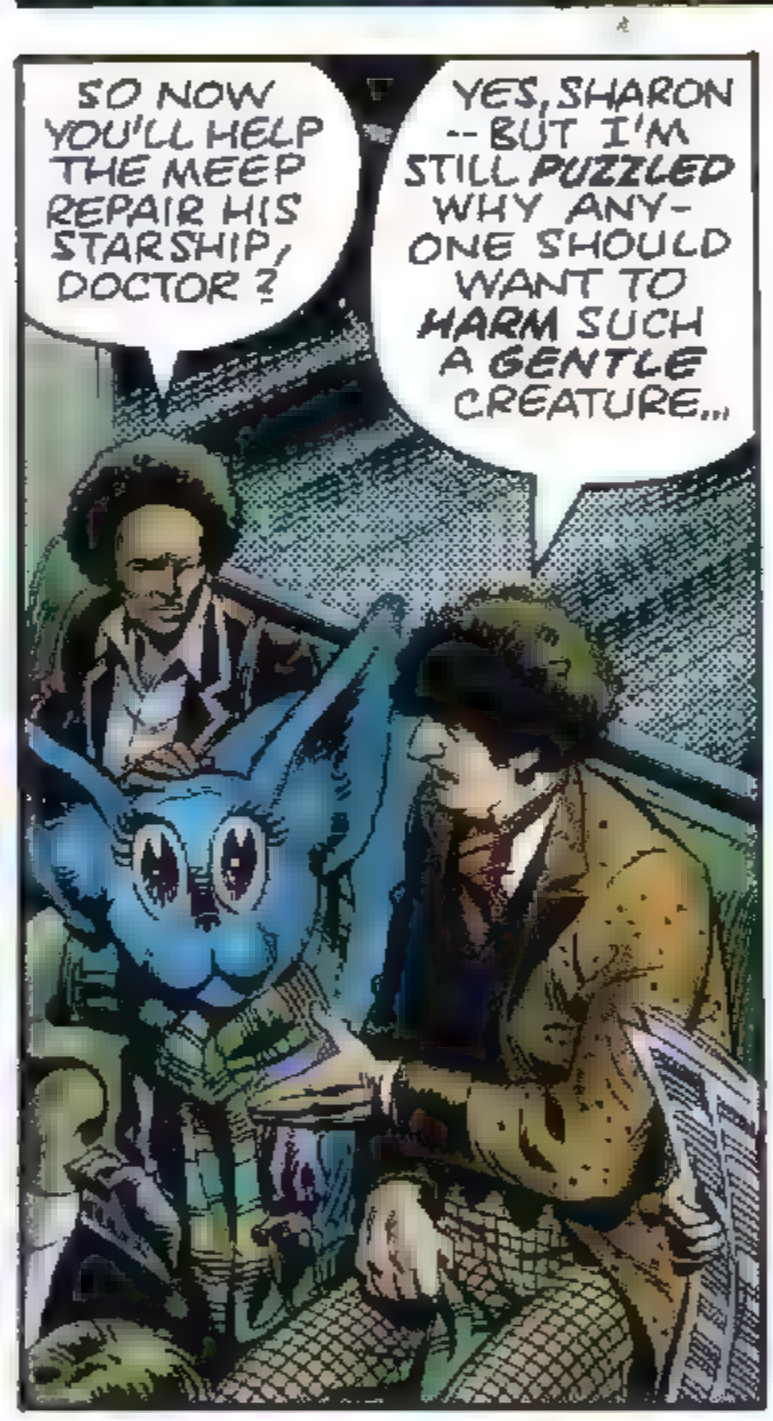
IT'S WORKING, DOCTOR! IT'S DRIVING THEM BACK!



NEXT ISSUE: **REVENGE of WRARTH!**

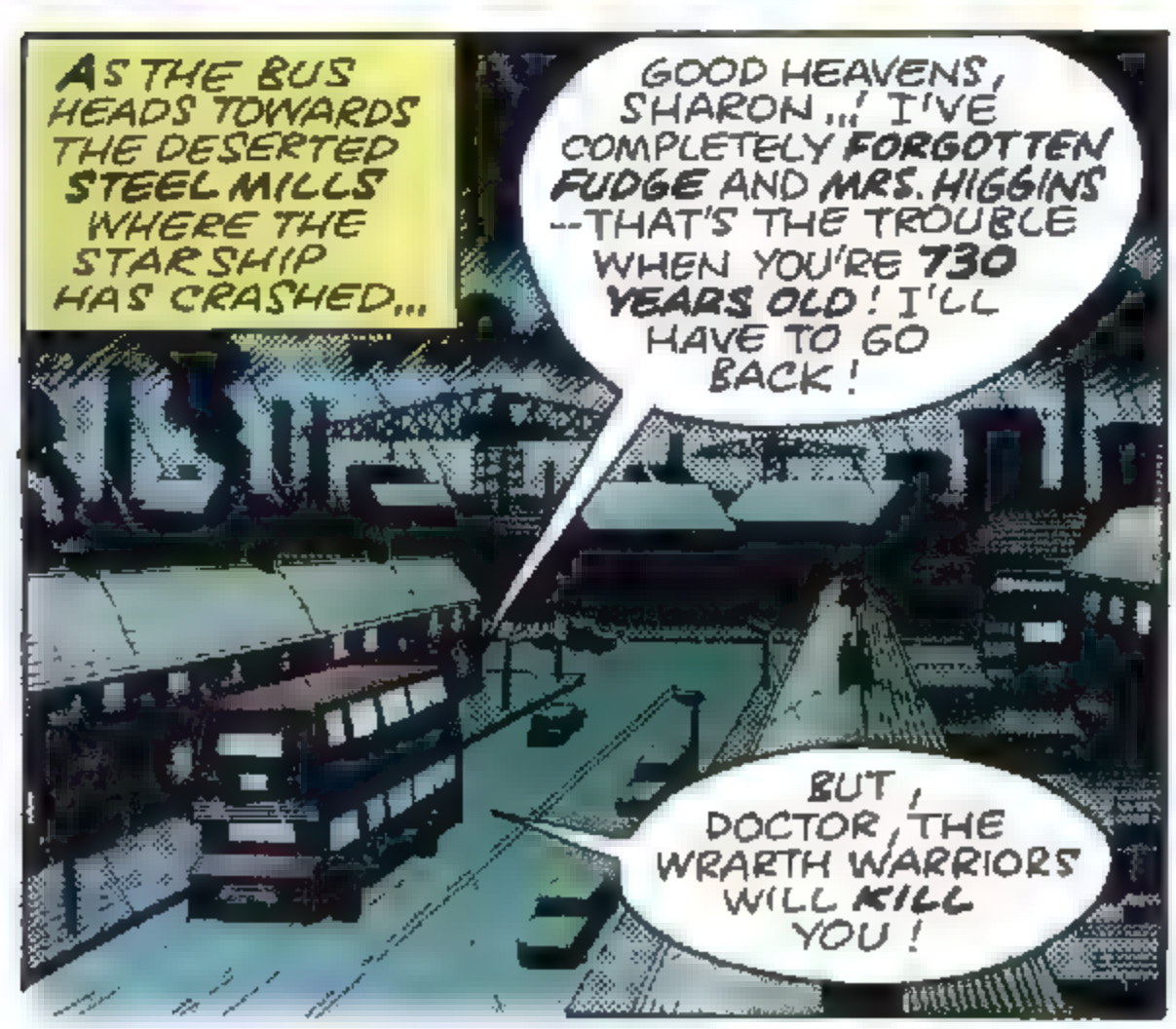
Stan Lee presents
DOCTOR WHO
AND THE
STAR BEAST
YOU MUST LET US ON THIS BUS! THE WHOLE FUTURE OF THE GALAXY IS AT STAKE!
SORRY, MATE! NO ANIMALS ALLOWED ON MY BUS -- EXCEPT ON A LEAD!
A MYSTERIOUS ALIEN -- KNOWN AS 'THE MEEP' -- HAS CRASH-LANDED IN BLACKCASTLE, WHERE HE IS HELPED BY THE DOCTOR AND TWO CHILDREN. THEY HAVE NO IDEA THAT THE MEEP IS REALLY A GALACTIC CRIMINAL!
NOW, AS THE MEEP'S ENEMIES -- THE WRARTH WARRIORS -- ATTACK, THE DOCTOR AND HIS COMPANIONS FLEE FROM THE --
REVENGE of WRARTH!
WRITERS = MILLS + WAGNER / ARTIST = DAVE GIBBONS / EDITOR = PAUL NEARY

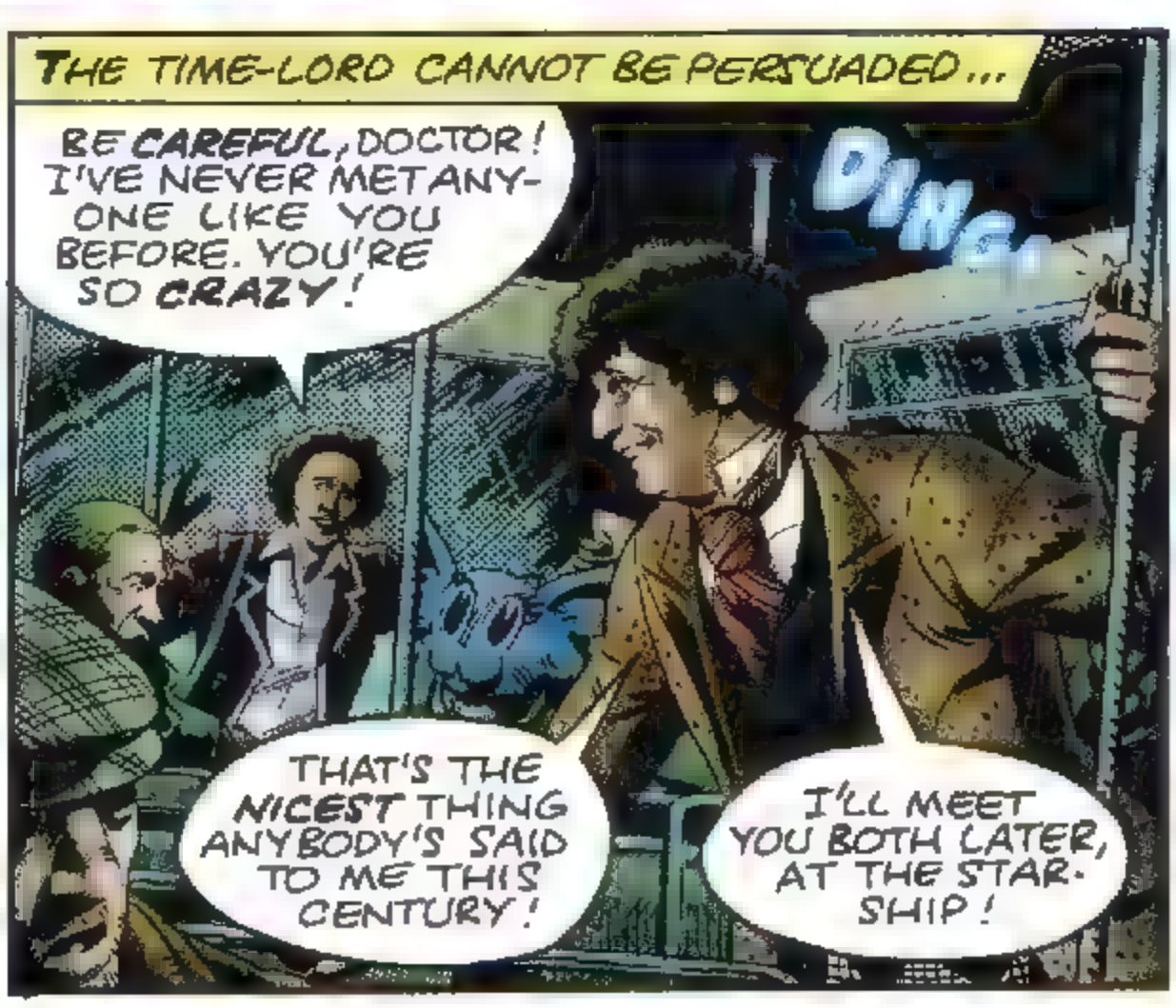
AND SO--
COME ON, BOY!
OH NO! PLEASE DON'T LET THEM SIT NEXT TO ME!
MEEP! MEEP!
AS THE BUS SPEEDS AWAY FROM THE WRARTH WARRIORS...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE USED A 5A BUS TO ESCAPE FROM ALIENS!


SO NOW YOU'LL HELP THE MEEP REPAIR HIS STARSHIP, DOCTOR?
YES, SHARON --BUT I'M STILL PUZZLED WHY ANYONE SHOULD WANT TO HARM SUCH A GENTLE CREATURE...

THE MEEP'S THOUGHTS WERE FAR FROM GENTLE...
IS HE HOUSE-TRAINED?
NEVER HAS THE 'MOST-HIGH' BEEN SO INSULTED! BEFORE THE 'MOST-HIGH' LEAVES THIS PLANET THERE WILL BE ATONEMENT... IN BLOOD!
DOWN, BOY!

HE DIDN'T MEAN IT, MEEP! HEY, WHO'S A FURRY LITTLE CHEEKY, THEN?
THE 'MOST-HIGH' HAS AN UNCONTROLLABLE DESIRE TO KILL THIS EARTH-GIRL! BUT THE 'MOST-HIGH' MUST CONTROL HIMSELF. BUSINESS BEFORE ...PLEASURE!


AS THE BUS HEADS TOWARDS THE DESERTED STEEL MILLS WHERE THE STARSHIP HAS CRASHED...
GOOD HEAVENS, SHARON...! I'VE COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN FUDGE AND MRS. HIGGINS --THAT'S THE TROUBLE WHEN YOU'RE 730 YEARS OLD! I'LL HAVE TO GO BACK!
BUT, DOCTOR, THE WRARTH WARRIORS WILL KILL YOU!


THE TIME-LORD CANNOT BE PERSUADED...
BE CAREFUL, DOCTOR! I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE LIKE YOU BEFORE. YOU'RE SO CRAZY!
THAT'S THE NICEST THING ANYBODY'S SAID TO ME THIS CENTURY!
I'LL MEET YOU BOTH LATER, AT THE STARSHIP!

MEANWHILE, AT THE HIGGINS' HOUSE, THE WRARTH WARRIORS USE **TRANSLATORS** TO COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR PRISONERS...

YOU HAVE HELPED THE EVIL MEEP, **EARTH-BEINGS**! FOR THAT, YOU WILL BE **TERMINATED**!

BUT YOUR DEATHS WILL BE **EASIER** IF YOU... **CO-OPERATE**!

WHAT SHALL WE DO, **FUDGE**?

I'M NOT SCARED OF TWO **B.E.M.**S! LISTEN, I'LL TELL YOU HOW **CAPTAIN STARFLASH** GOT OUT OF A SITUATION JUST LIKE THIS!

CAPTAIN STARFLASH

WE ARE **NOT INTERESTED** IN **CAPTAIN STARFLASH**, DWARF! WE SEEK THE MEEP AND HIS ACCOMPLICE, **THE DOCTOR**!

WHERE IS THE DOCTOR? ANSWER ...OR DIE!

I'M RIGHT HERE! NOW WHY DON'T YOU STOP WAVING THAT SILLY GUN ABOUT AND LET'S TALK THIS WHOLE BUSINESS OVER.

FIRE OF KALOS!

YOU ARE EITHER **VERY BRAVE** OR **VERY STUPID** TO RETURN!

I JUST WANT TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THINGS! I'M NOT ON **ANYONE'S** SIDE! **MRS. HIGGINS** --I THINK WE COULD ALL DO WITH A **NICE CUP OF TEA** ...JUST **EIGHT** SUGARS IN MINE!

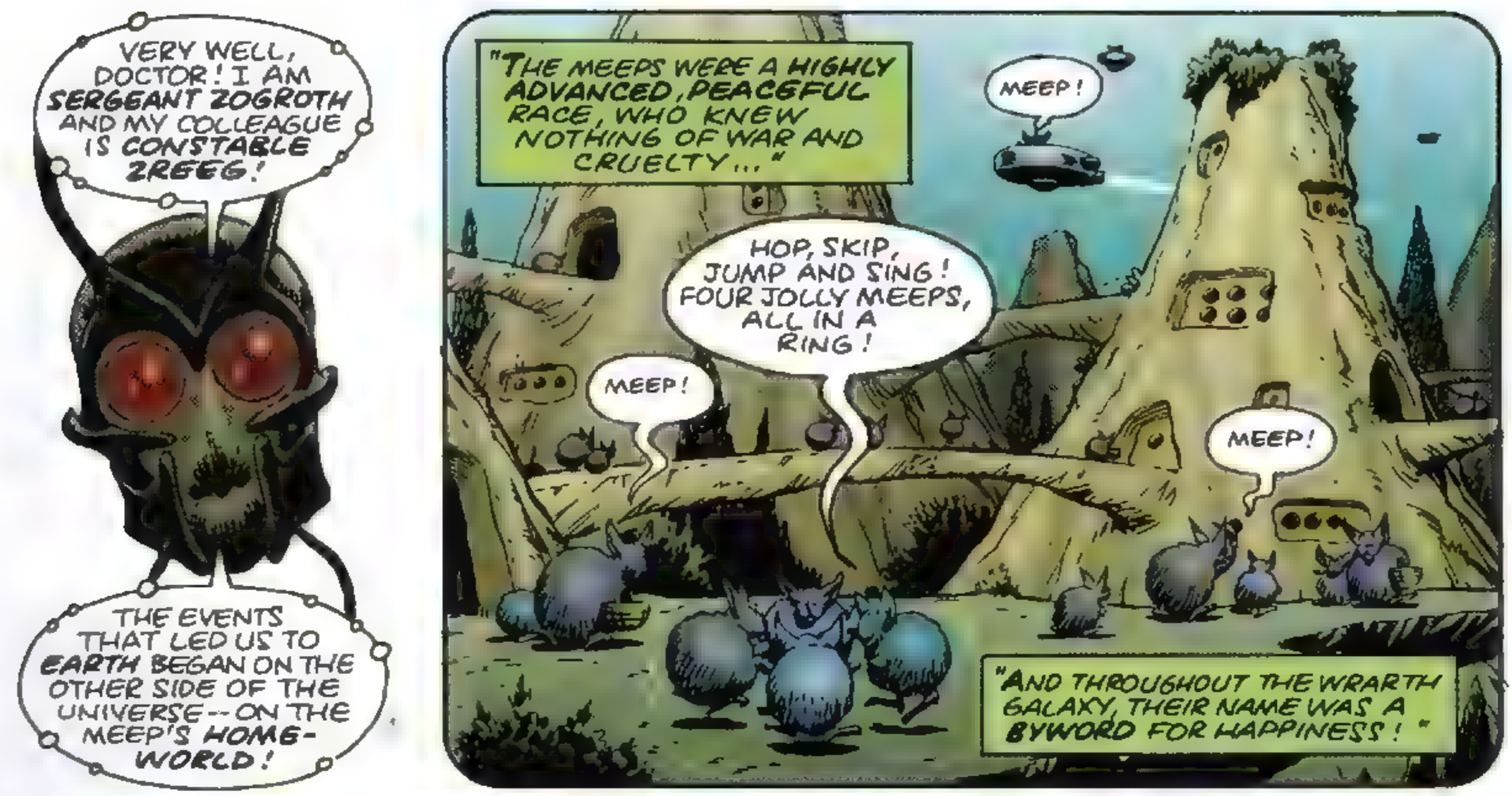
I-I'LL PUT THE KETTLE ON.

WHY SHOULD WE TRUST YOU?

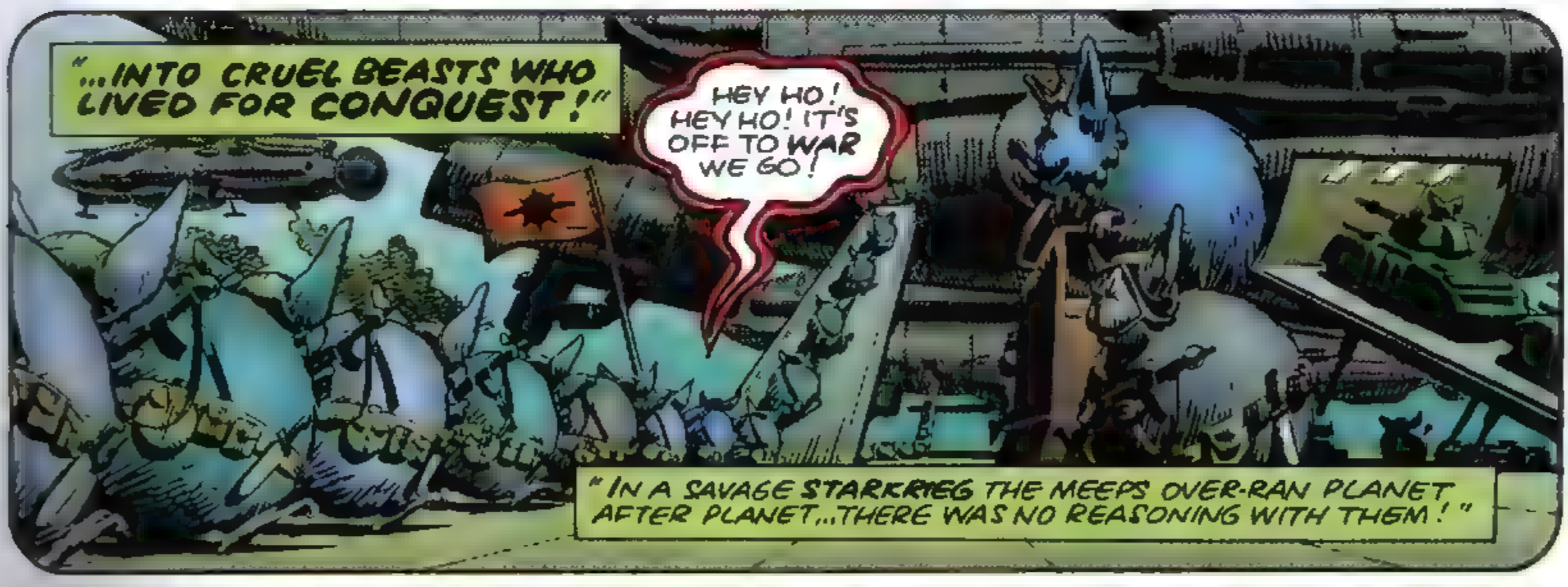
MAYBE I'VE GOT SOMETHING IN MY POCKETS THAT WILL CONVINCE YOU... KEY TO THE **TARDIS**..? MEDAL FOR DEFEATING THE CYBERMEN..? **GALACTIC EXPRESS**..?

THAT'S **DIFFERENT**, DOCTOR..!

...EVEN IN THE WRARTH GALAXY, WE HAVE HEARD OF THE TERRIBLE **CYBERMEN**!


VERY WELL, DOCTOR! I AM SERGEANT ZOGROTH AND MY COLLEAGUE IS CONSTABLE ZREEG!
THE EVENTS THAT LED US TO EARTH BEGAN ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE--ON THE MEEP'S HOME-WORLD!
"THE MEEPS WERE A HIGHLY ADVANCED, PEACEFUL RACE, WHO KNEW NOTHING OF WAR AND CRUELTY..."
MEEP!
HOP, SKIP, JUMP AND SING! FOUR JOLLY MEEPS, ALL IN A RING!
MEEP!
MEEP!
"AND THROUGHOUT THE WRARTH GALAXY, THEIR NAME WAS A BYWORD FOR HAPPINESS!"

"THEN, TRAGEDY STRUCK... THEIR PLANET'S ORBIT MYSTERIOUSLY CHANGED--IT PASSED CLOSE TO..."
"...THE BLACK SUN!"
"THE SUN'S RADIATION MUTATED A RACE THAT WAS GENTLE AND KIND..."


"...INTO CRUEL BEASTS WHO LIVED FOR CONQUEST!"
HEY HO! HEY HO! IT'S OFF TO WAR WE GO!
"IN A SAVAGE STARKRIEG THE MEEPS OVER-RAN PLANET AFTER PLANET...THERE WAS NO REASONING WITH THEM!"

"THE MEEPS DESTROYED EVERYTHING...THEIR PRISONERS WERE SHOWN NO MERCY!"
HOPPITY HOP! BOPPITY BOP! WHO'S NEXT FOR THE CHOP?

"RELUCTANTLY, THE STAR COUNCIL ORDERED THE USE OF THE WRARTH WARRIORS ... BIOLOGICAL CONSTRUCTS OF THE FIVE STRONGEST RACES IN THE GALAXY. WE ARE--"
"LAW ENFORCERS OF THE STARS!"

"WE FOUGHT THE MEEPS FROM PLANET TO PLANET. AT LAST, AT THE BATTLE OF YARRAS, WE SMASHED THE MEEPS' ARMADA!"
"ONLY THEIR CRUEL LEADER ESCAPED..."

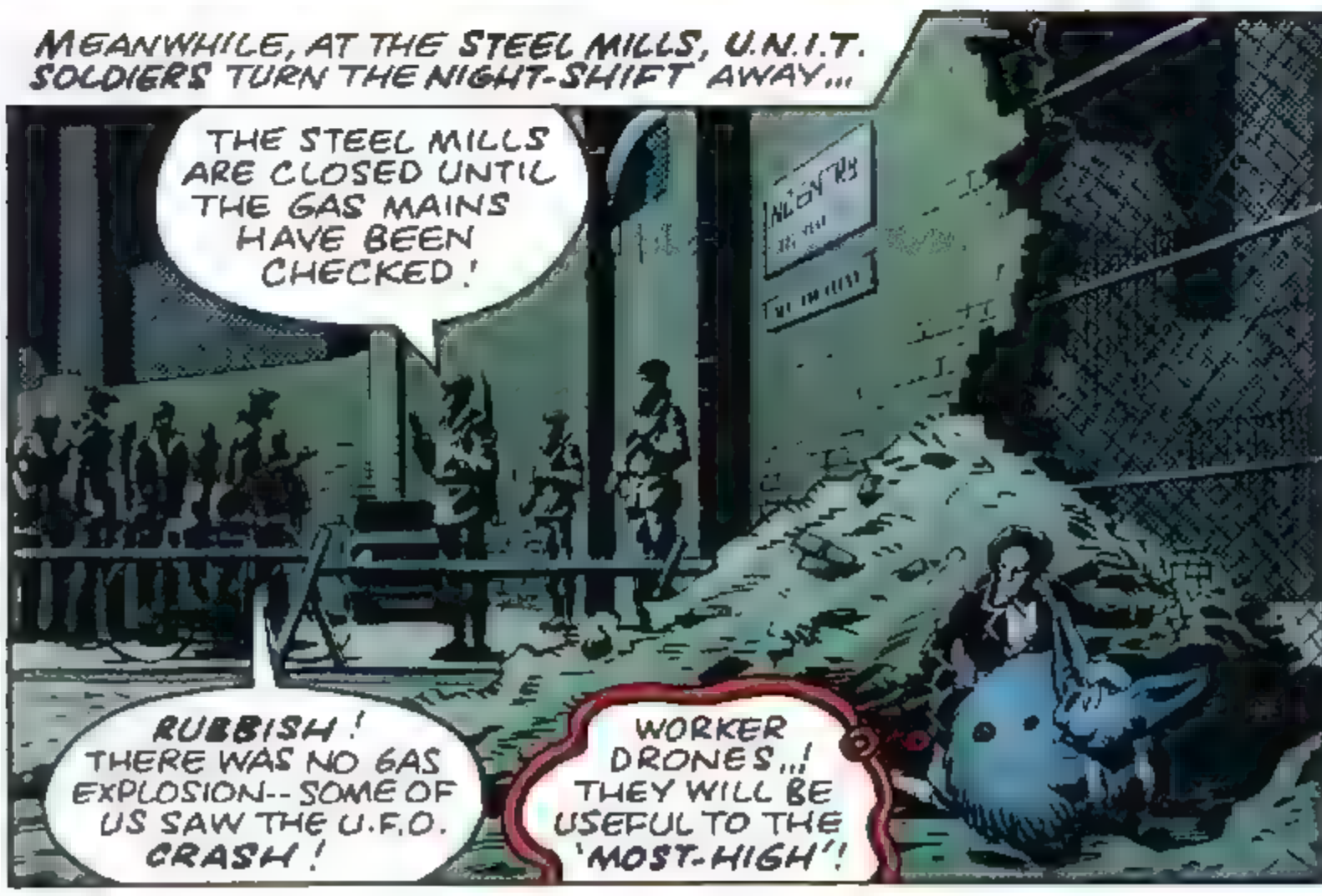
"A G.L.E.P.-- GALACTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT POSSE-- WAS FORMED..."
"IN HOT PURSUIT, WE SHOT THE MEEP DOWN OVER EARTH..."

HERE IS OUR OFFICIAL WARRANT, DOCTOR ... AUTHORISING HIS CAPTURE... DEAD OR ALIVE!

MY PROPHETIC SOUL! SO THE MEEP IS AS GENTLE AS A BOA-CONSTRICTOR -- AND HE'S GOT SHARON IN HIS GRASP!
NEXT WEEK:
HOUR OF THE BEAST!

THE DOCTOR DISCOVERS THAT THE MEEP IS A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL WANTED BY THE WRATH-WARRIORS – GALACTIC LAW ENFORCERS. BUT THE DOCTOR'S COMPANION, SHARON, IS IN THE MEEP'S CLUTCHES . . .

SCRIPT. MILLS + WAGNER ART DAVE GIBBONS.

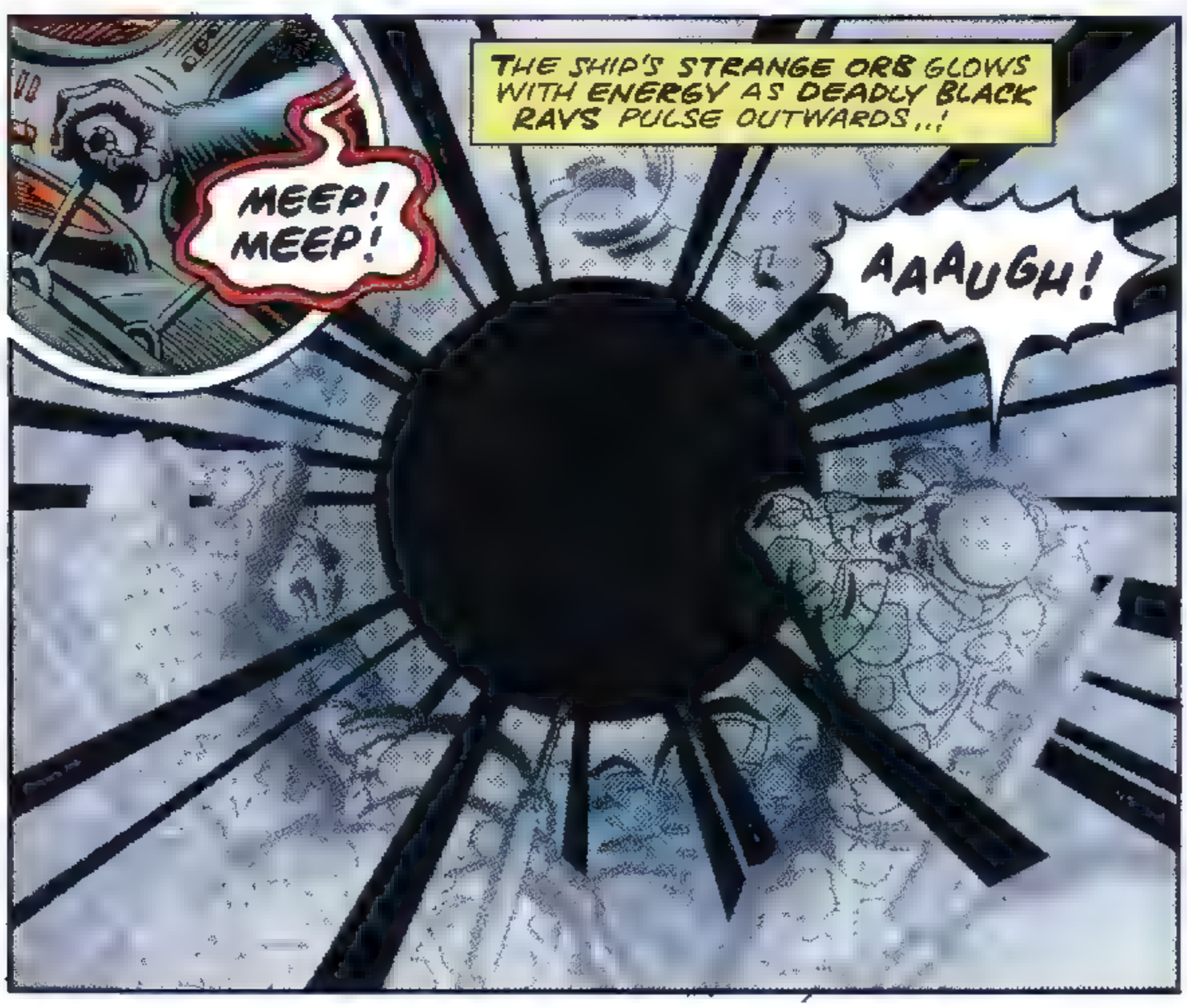


HEY, YOU TWO -- STOP!
...BUT SHE HAS HER USES--

-- SHE MAKES AN EXCELLENT BODY SHIELD!
YOU'VE KILLED THEM!

IT'S JUST A TEENSY-WEENSY STUN BEAM, SHARON! IT MAKES THEM SLEEP--
PHEW! THANK GOOD-NESS!
--FOR EVER!

NEXT MINUTE...
I HEARD SHOTS...BLIMEY! SOMEONE'S CLIMBING ABOARD THE ALIEN SHIP!


THE SHIP'S STRANGE ORB GLOWS WITH ENERGY AS DEADLY BLACK RAYS PULSE OUTWARDS...!
MEEP! MEEP!
AAAUGH!

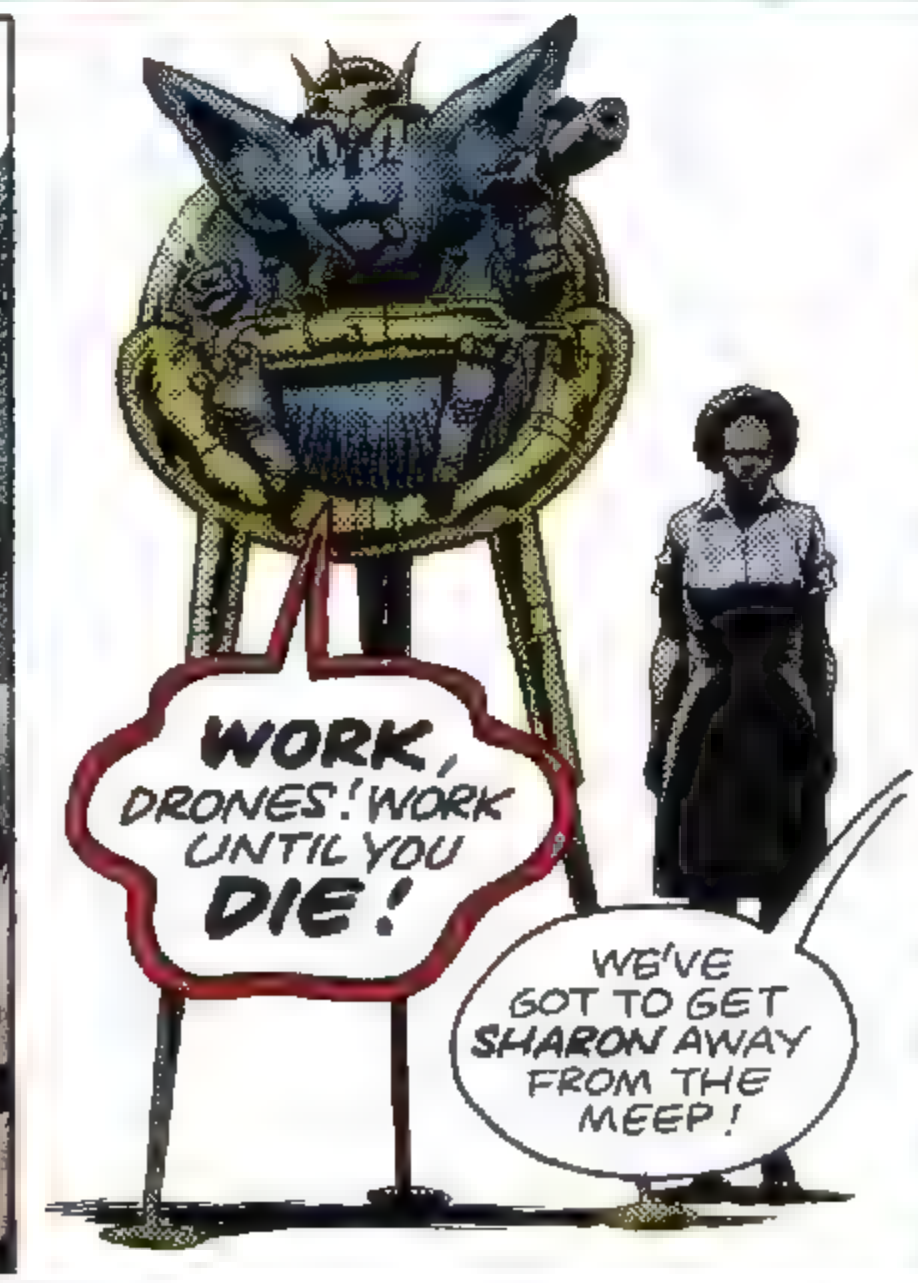
LATER, THE DOCTOR -- HAVING SAID FAREWELL TO HIS HUMAN FRIENDS LEADS THE WARRIORS INTO THE STEEL MILLS...
THE SHIP'S OVER HERE. WE'LL CLIMB UP -- SO WE CAN SEE WHAT'S GOING ON FIRST...

DOWN BELOW... THE GIANT STEEL PLANT SEETHED WITH LIFE...!

HAIL, BEEP OF ALL THE MEEPS!

HEAR ME, DRONES! HEAR THE SUPREME BEEP OF ALL THE MEEPS! ONCE YOU BUILT MIGHTY SHIPS THAT SAILED EARTH'S OCEANS...!

NOW--YOU REBUILD THE SHIP THAT WILL RETURN ME... TO THE STARS!



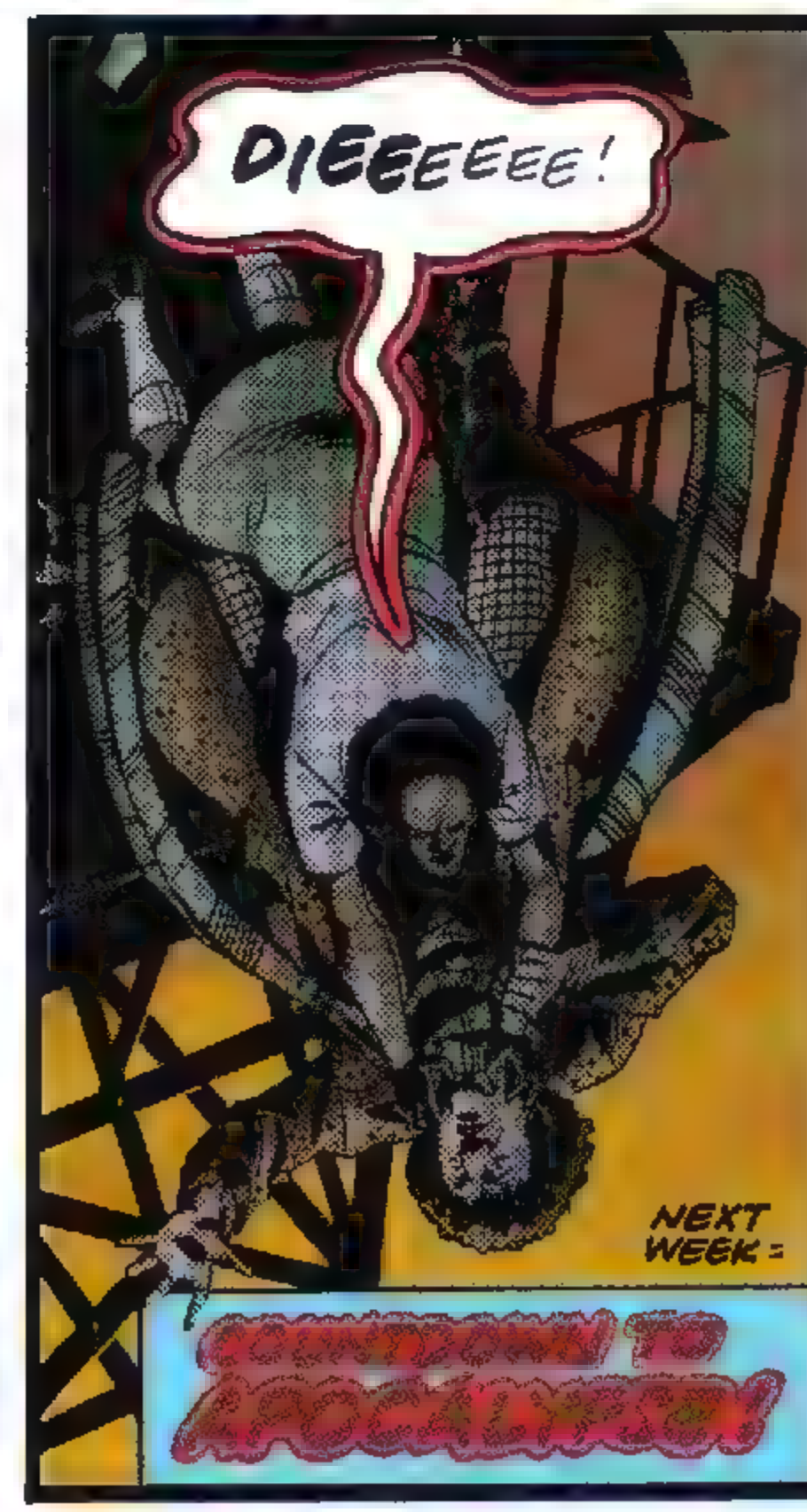
...THROW PAPER SPACESHIPS AT EACH OTHER!

ONE GALLIFREYAN INTERCEPTOR BANG ON TARGET!

IT'S ATTRACTED HER ATTENTION...! HERE SHE COMES...

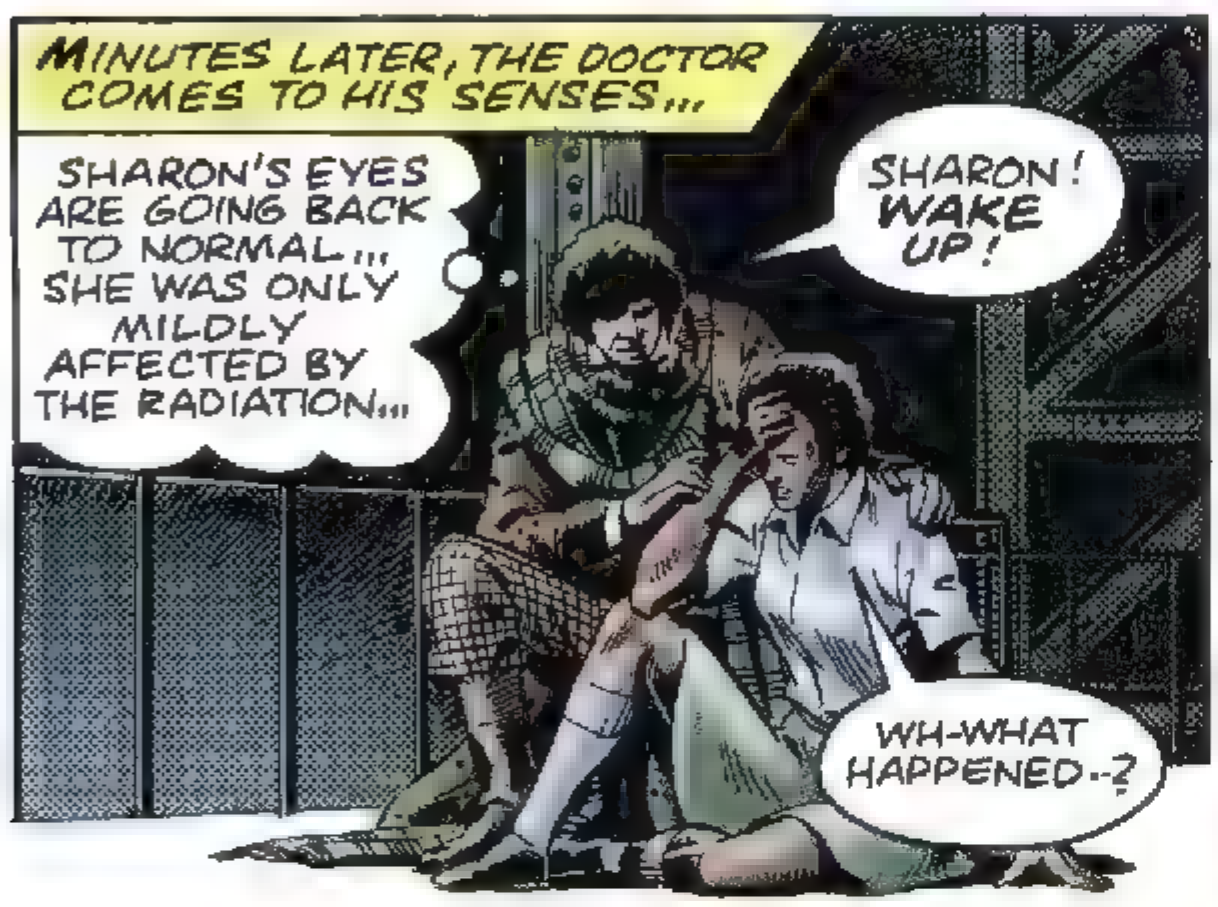
DOCTOR...? IS... THAT... YOU?
YES, SHARON--NOW LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY...!

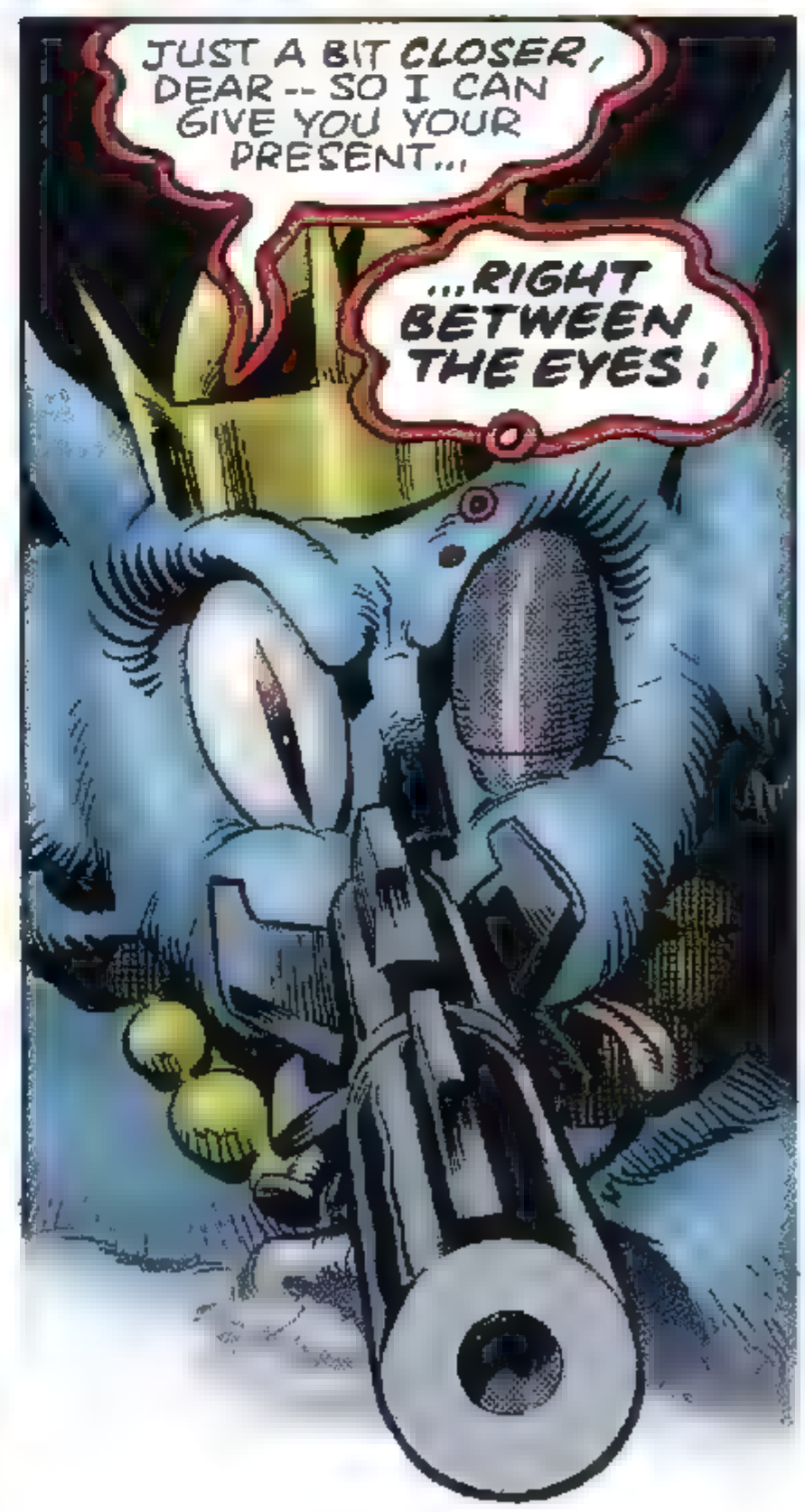
HATE... DOCTOR... KILL...!
SHARON!

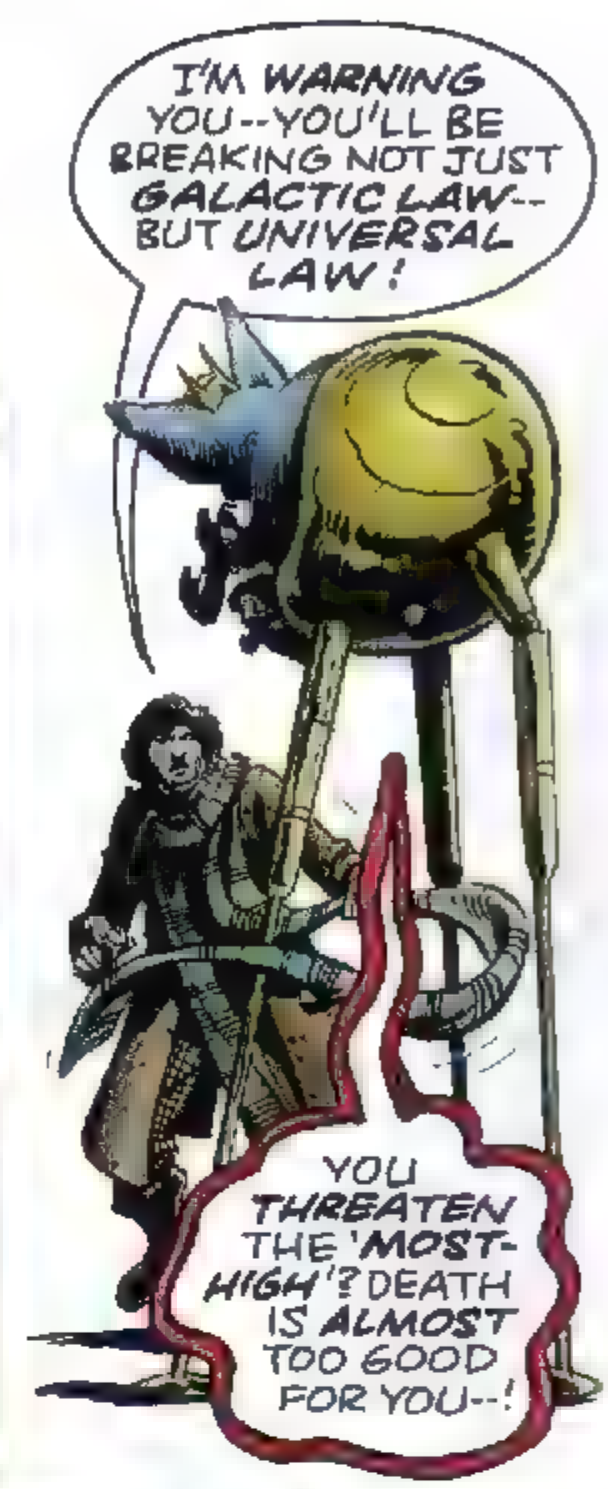

DIEEEEEE!
NEXT WEEK:

THE DOCTOR DISCOVERS THAT THE MEEP IS A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL WANTED BY THE WRATH WARRIORS — GALACTIC LAW ENFORCERS. BUT THE MEEP CAUSES THE DOCTOR'S COMPANION — SHARON — TO TURN ON THE TIME LORD!

SCRIPT. MILLS + WAGNER ART. DAVE GIBBONS.







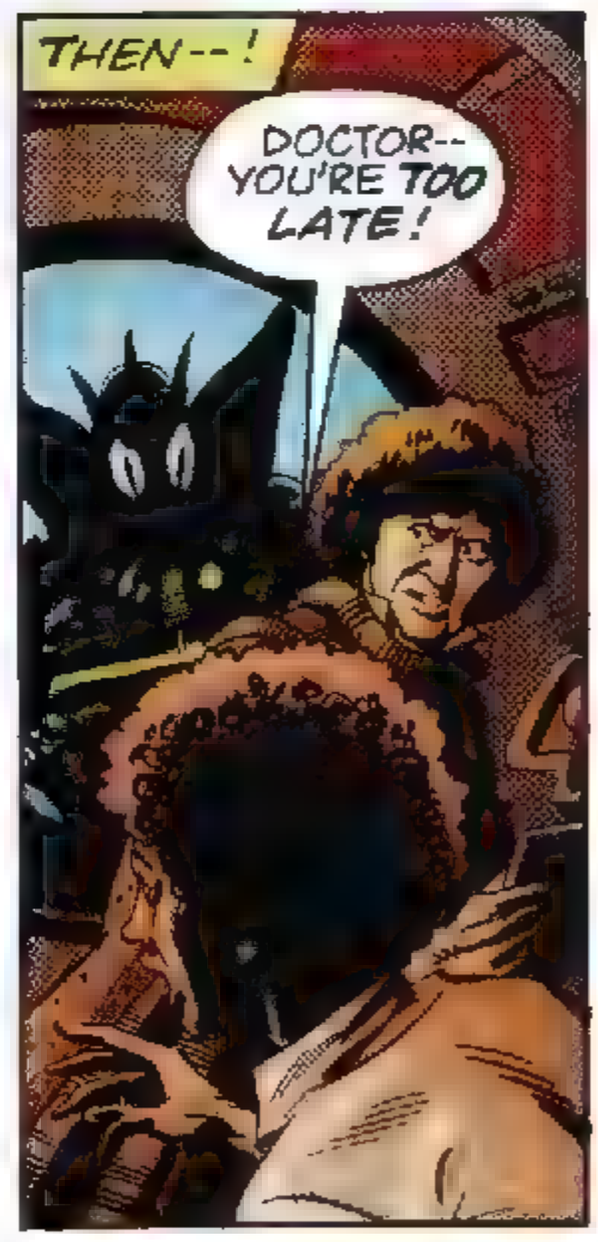
THE DOCTOR'S DELIBERATELY HARSH WORDS GOAD SHARON--

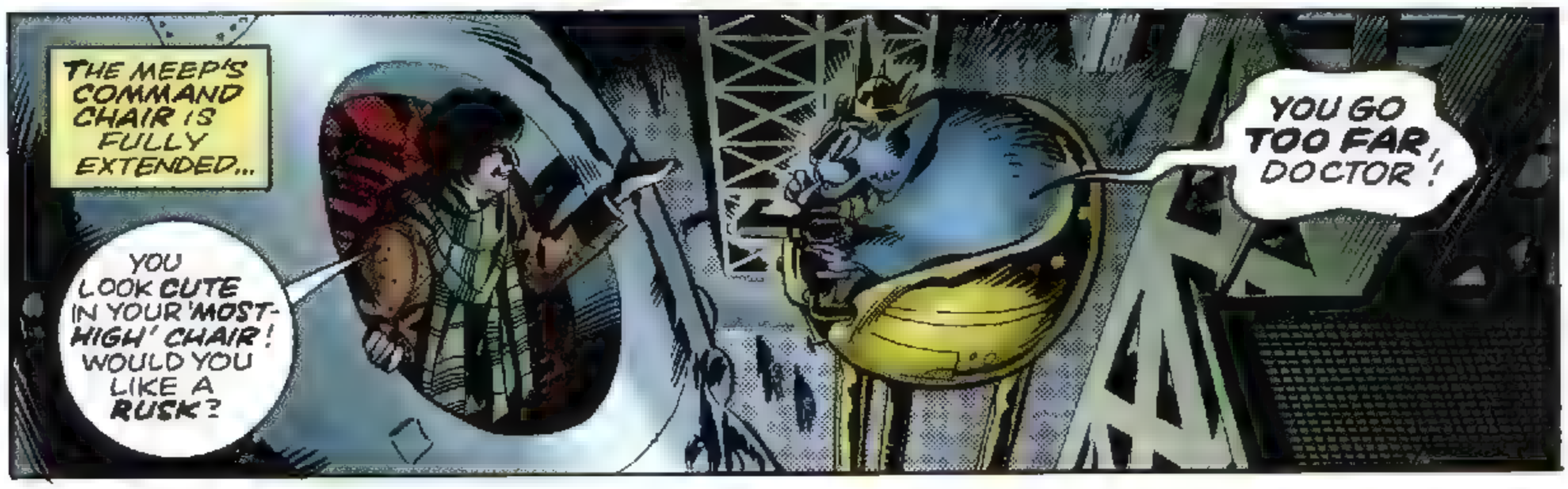
FIND THEM AND KILL THEM!

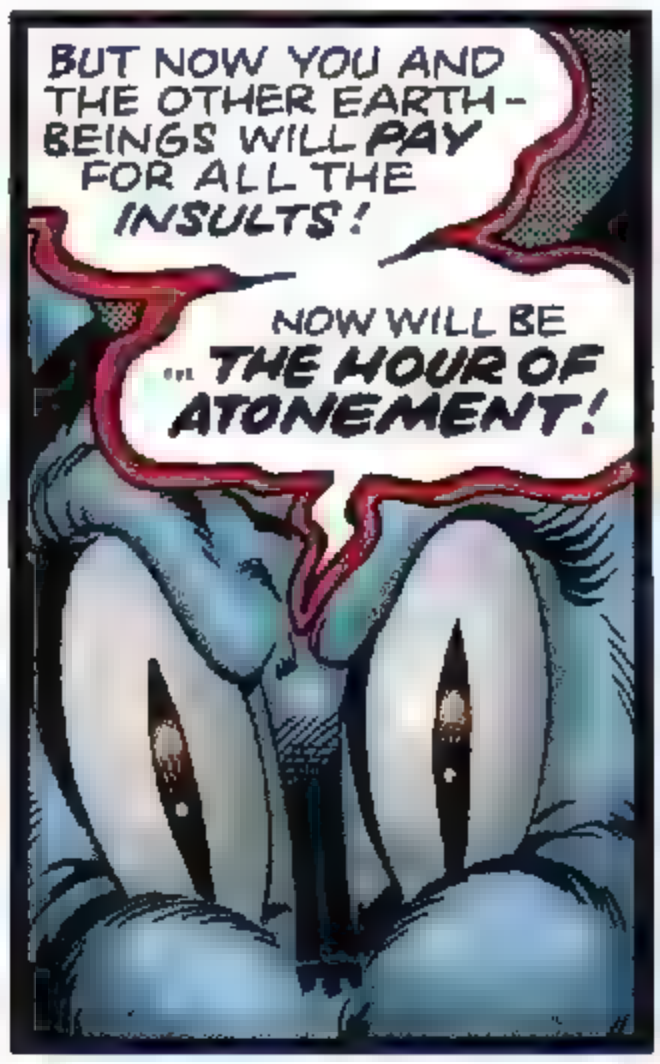
WE OBEY THE EXALTED ONE!

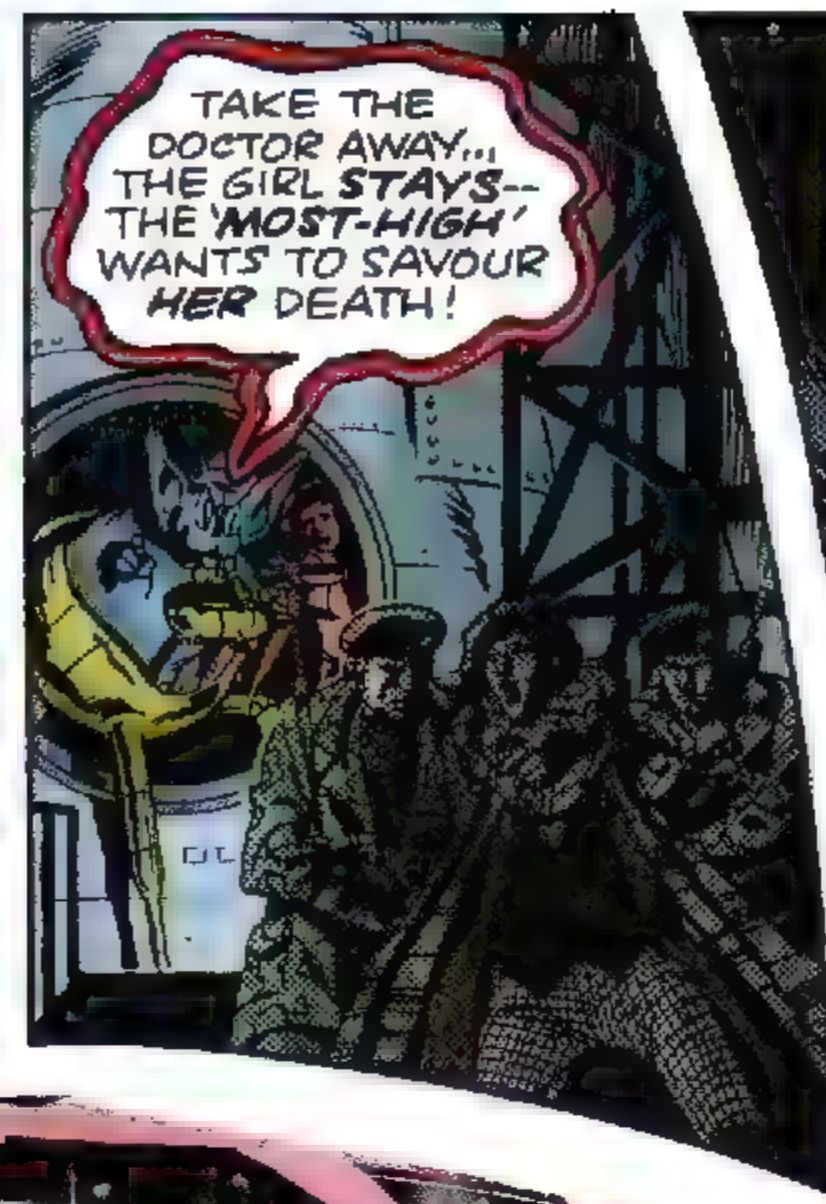
AS THE GUARDS SEARCH, THE ALIEN SHIP IS DRAGGED TOWARDS THE LAUNCHING RAMP...

HAIL, BEEP OF ALL THE MEEPS!









AS THE VORTEX OPENS--MATTER BECOMES UNSTABLE ...IS RIPPED FROM THE EARTH! AND--

BLACKCASTLE IS SUCKED INTO A BLACK HOLE!

AT THE EPICENTRE, THE DOCTOR IS SUBJECTED TO THE CRUSHING GRAVITY OF THE MOST TERRIFYING MYSTERY OF THE UNIVERSE!

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IDWORDS
News from the nerve center of IDW Publishing

JOHN BYRNE'S LATEST *ASSIGNMENT* ARRIVES IN MAY!

The esteemed creator launches his first-ever Star Trek miniseries

Among the few living and working comic book creators who really do need no introduction, **John Byrne** is an individual near the top of that very short list. And yet, despite decades of phenomenal success that has seen him help revive characters from the X-Men to Superman, as well as debut runs on his own wildly successful creations like ***John Byrne's Next Men***, the lifelong ***Star Trek*** fan has never actually put pen to a *Star Trek* comic book until coming to IDW.

After getting a warm-up with the *Alien Spotlight: Romulans* book released in February, Byrne has opened up the afterburners for his first ever full fledged *Star Trek* series, ***Star Trek: Assignment Earth***. Part of IDW's Star Trek: Second Stage line of titles that feature major storytelling talent for its second year of publishing Starfleet stories, the book takes the "back-door" pilot seen as the season two finale of The Original Series and, 40 years later, gives life to the spin-off that never came to pass. Byrne took a break from his drawing table to talk to IDW about his new Star Trek work, reviving his older *Next Men* comics, and the joys of watching young Teri Garr.

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Star Trek: The Next Generation: Intelligence Gathering #4
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The Transformers: Best of the UK: Space Pirates #2
Transformers Movie Sequel: The Reign of Starscream #1

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CVO: African Blood TPB
Gene Simmons Dominatrix TPB
Gene Simmons House of Horrors TPB
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Speed Racer/Racer X: The Origins Collection TPB

The Executioner: The Devil's Tools #1

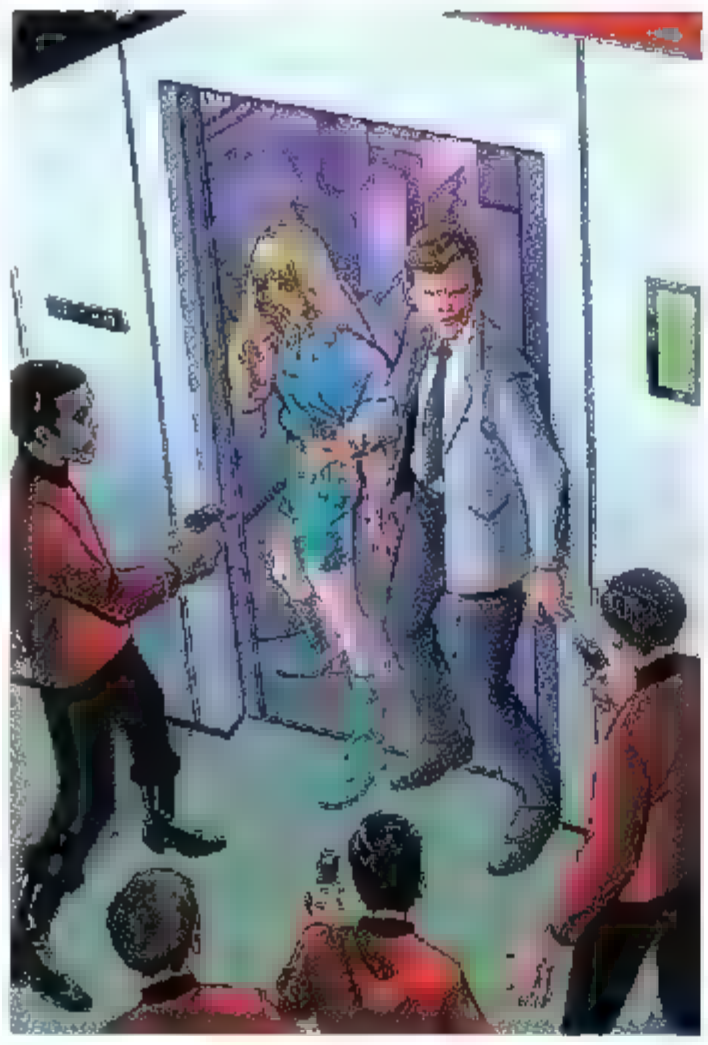
Angel: After the Fall #6

The Mummy Movie Prequel: The Rise and Fall of Xango's Ax #1

Star Trek: Year Four: The Enterprise Experiment #1

Transformers Movie Sequel: The Reign of Starscream #1

IDW: Decades into the comics biz, and this is the first time you've sharpened your pencil for a full fledged Star Trek series. How did that come about?



JB: The most prosaic way possible—I was asked! IDW Editor-in-Chief Chris Ryall had contacted me about the *Next Men* reprints, and threw out the idea of my doing some *Star Trek* stuff. I protested that my likenesses were not up to the task, but he is a persistent little bugger (name that quote!) and suggested maybe one of the Alien Spotlight books, where likenesses would not be an issue. Thus, *Romulans*. Then Chris asked if there was anything else I'd be interested in doing in that vein, and I asked about Gary Seven.

IDW: That's a pretty obscure character. What about him caught your attention? It was that awesome ballpoint pen, right?

JB: That, and Teri Garr! No, seriously, when I first saw the episode, at the end of the second season of The Original Series, I was still naive enough not to recognize it as a pilot. I saw it in much the same light as Harry Mudd—a character/situation being introduced that would turn up again in future episodes. When no such episodes were forthcoming, I thought about doing some of my own, though I didn't really consider ever actually having a place to put 'em!

IDW: Still, it's an incredibly original idea to do a comics version of the Gary Seven TV spin off that never came to pass. Skipping a year forward with each issue will also be unconventional. In fact, it's probably the most unusual Star Trek *title ever published. Was that what you set out to do—"go where no miniseries has gone before"?*

JB: The year skips are a minor element, really. I've said elsewhere that unless the reader is really hip to the history of the period, they will most likely not get any sense of how much time is passing. Mostly I'm doing it because I want to start close to the original episode, which was 1968, but one of the stories I came up with involves Nixon's visit to China, which was 1972. But, really, to a casual reader, I'll bet if I said there was no more than a month between issues there would be nothing—aside from Roberta's hair, which will be different in every issue—to clue them in to anything otherwise.

IDW: With the stories set in the 1960s and '70s, how will you keep it connected to Trek, so that fans will see that it's different, yet still familiar?

JB: Well, there's a big honkin' *Star Trek* in the logo, for a start! Also, the second issue "crosses over" with an actual episode of The Original Series. I'd thought about doing this in the third issue, but the Trekkie inside me couldn't wait.

IDW: Aha, a Trekkie, not a Trekker. That's a sure sign of an old school fan. If you've been such a fan since you were a kid, why did it take you so long to decide to do a series?

JB: Mostly, the likenesses issue. Much as I love *Star Trek*, I did not want to face the nightmare of licensed projects again. Having actors sign off on their images is always a pain. Their mirrors don't work the same way that cameras do!

IDW: There are very few people who have drawn both Star Trek *and the* X-Men *without having actually drawn "*Star Trek/X-Men*." There's you, Dave Cockrum, and I think Jim Lee did a* Voyager *cover once. That leaves you uniquely qualified to talk about* Trek *crossovers. If you could do a* Star Trek *crossover however you'd like, with any other fictional source, what would it be?*

JB: This is nothing major, but since I started working on *Assignment Earth*, I have found myself thinking a crossover with Roddenberry's other, similarly themed busted pilot, *The Questor Tapes*, would be fun.

IDW: Let's talk about a few of your other projects. Your series FX *with Wayne Osborne (also published by IDW) is gloriously retro, a superhero book that feels like it's straight out of the late 1970s or early '80s. Is that one of your favorite eras in comics?*

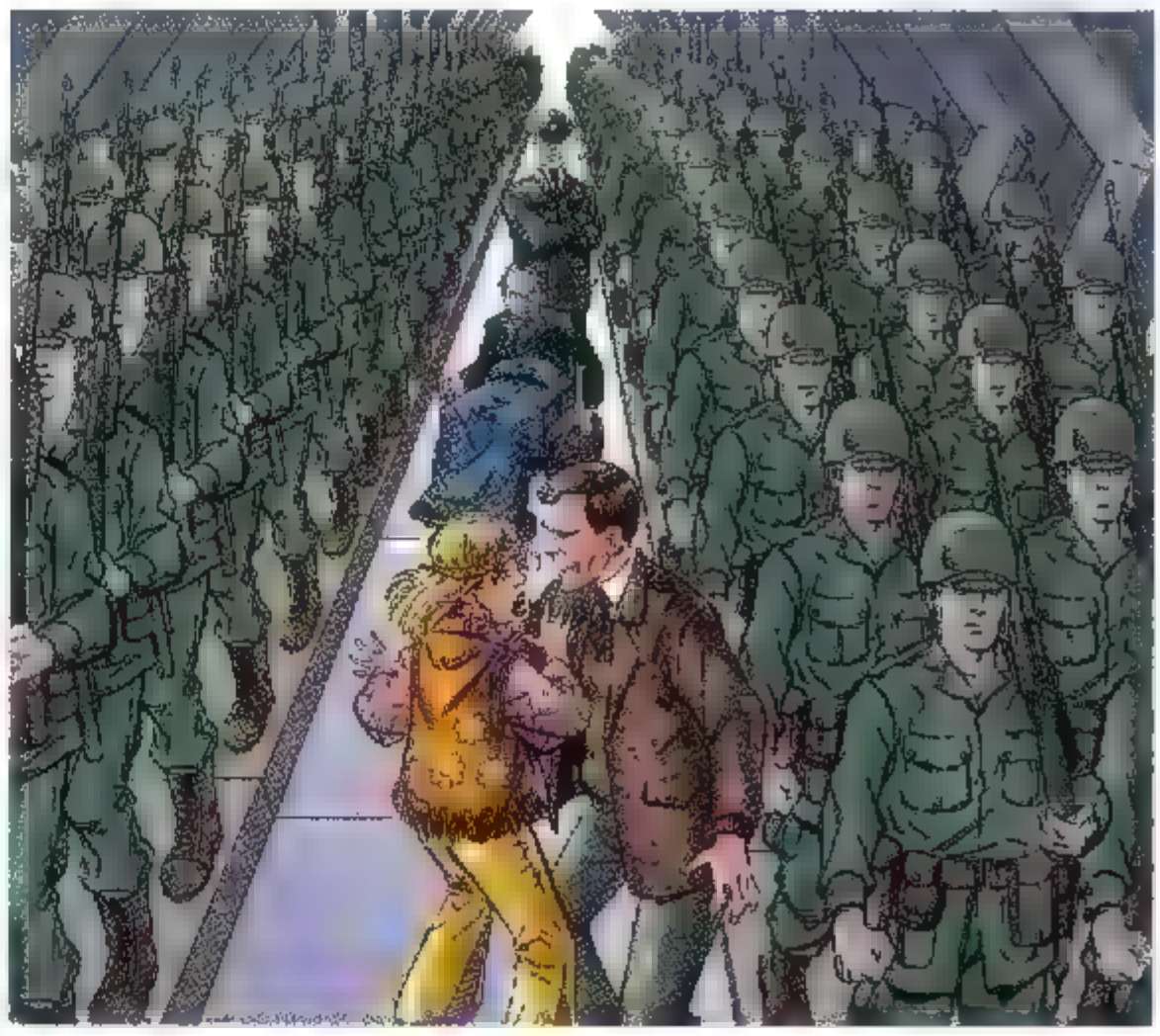
JB: No, my favorite is a bit earlier! But it's definitely Wayne's. I think it's a disservice to call the book "retro," though. It's definitely not grim and gritty—or "gloomy," as Dave Gibbons has pointed out the "grim and gritty" books really are. It's old-time superheroics, much in the vein of Stan and Jack's *Fantastic Four*, or Stan and Steve's *Spider-Man*, but it has its own set of modern sensibilities, too. There'll be no doubt reading it that this is a book set in the 21st century, intended for a 21st century audience.

IDW: IDW is also going to reprint your entire Next Men *run, along with* 2112, Babe *and* Danger, Unlimited. *Is there the possibility of a new* Next Men *series on the horizon? This is just a courtesy question, mind you, since I have already decided for you that your answer will be "yes."*

JB: If it looks like *Next Men* can be done as something other than a vanity project, I will certainly do it. The series has a definite ending—I even know the last line!—and I would very much like to shake those 20 or so issues out of my head some day!

IDW: Any possibility of another Star Trek *miniseries after* Assignment Earth*? A more traditional Kirk-era story, or something set in* The Next Generation*?*

JB: Doing *Romulans* and *Assignment Earth* has opened a door in my head that has been closed—or at least pushed to close—for a long time. All kinds of stuff seems to be trying to spill out. If *Assignment Earth* goes over well, I'd like to do more of that, plus there is another potential "spin-off" that Chris and I touched on briefly. Aside from a few *Voyager* episodes, though, there really isn't any *Star Trek* for me after The Original Series, and unless I'm allowed to go check out some of the other ships of the fleet, visiting that period brings up the old spectre of likenesses again! IDW



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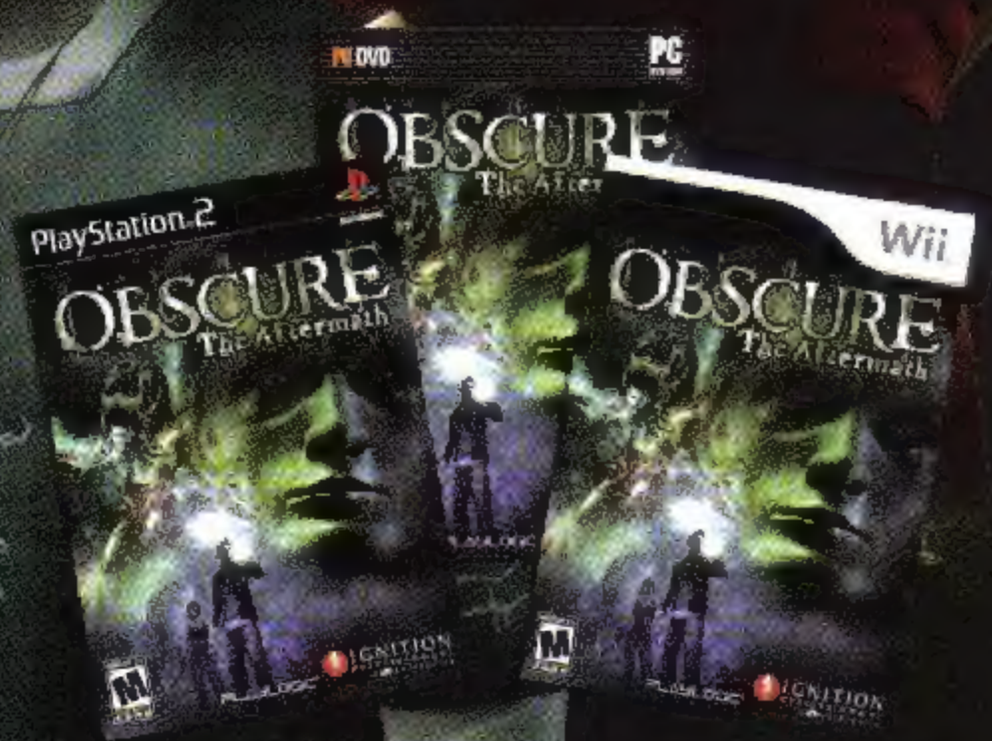

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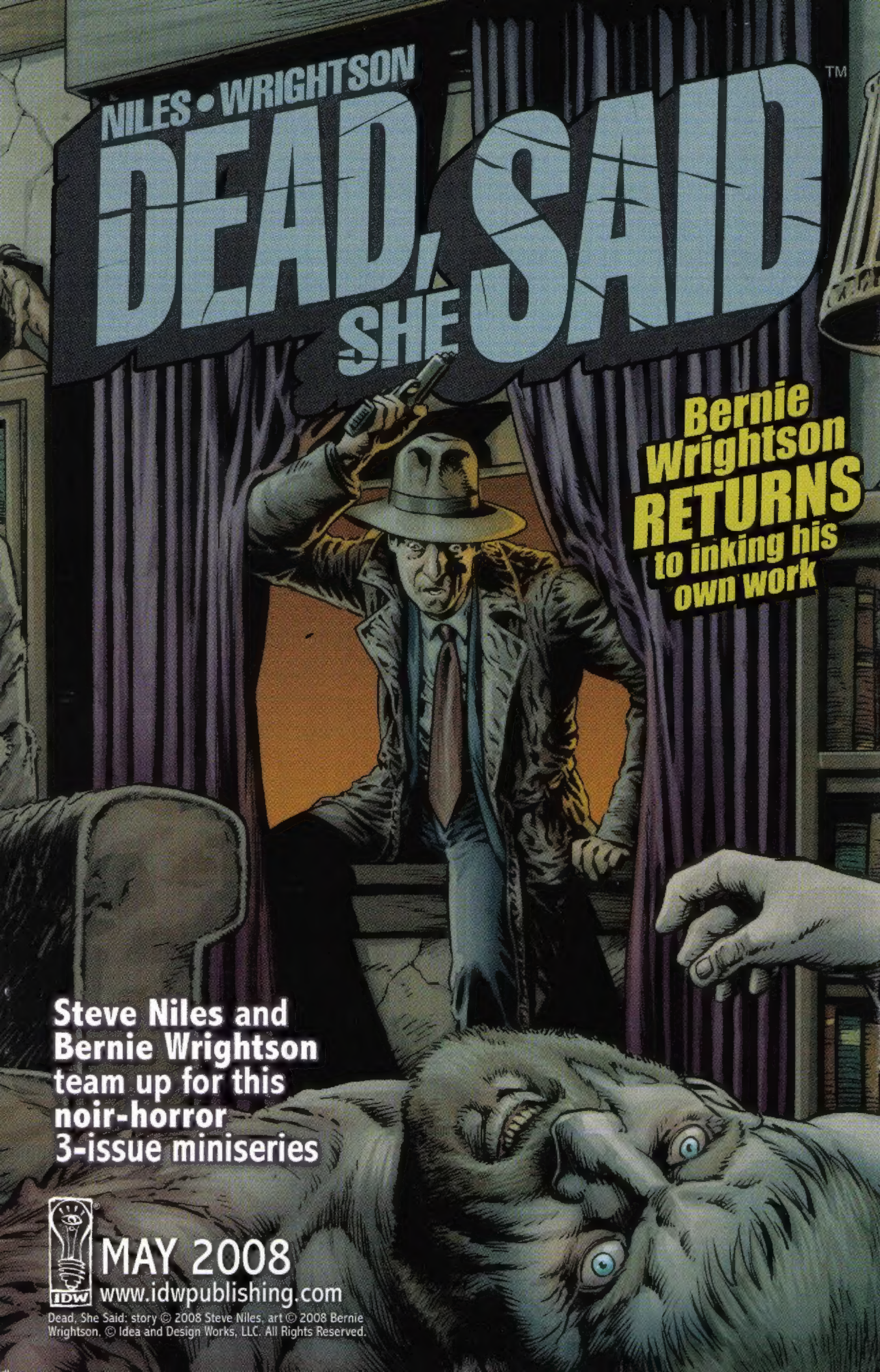
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